THE TIMES

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THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Tout de ...
After the summit meeting between Mrs Thatcher and President Mitterrand, the *cordiale* is the *entente*? Henry Stanhope reports.

Sweet
Alan Hamilton buzzes off to discover the secrets of the beekeepers and honey makers.

Sentimental ...
Roy Strong finds old fashioned romance flourishing among the skyscrapers and motorways of modern Britain.

Journey
Proof that you can take a baby on an aeroplane without having a nervous breakdown.

Doctors told of pill change

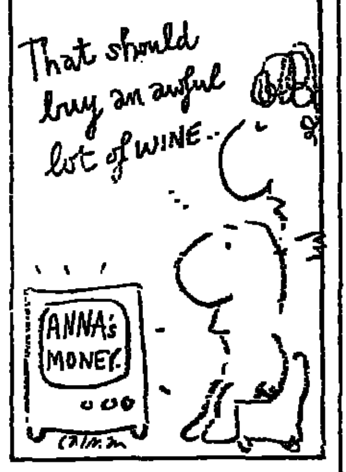
As a result of studies apparently *linking birth control pills with* cancer, the Committee on Safety of Medicines has decided to advise doctors that women taking the pill should be prescribed a type with the lowest suitable hormone content. The Department of Health, however, said that it would be unnecessary to interrupt a monthly cycle of treatment **Research links, page 2**

Nissan move may clinch deal

Nissan is believed to have revised its plans for a £500m British car plant and the go-ahead may be announced soon **Page 2**

Tunnel snags

The *Channel tunnel could* be entirely privately financed, but companies involved would seek guarantees which the Government is not prepared to give **Page 2**



Budget saving

The European Commission is adopting tough good management measures to save as much as £283m from this year's EEC budget **Page 5**

Reagan pledge

President Reagan has pledged *that the US will stand firm* on the Middle East and deploy nuclear weapons in Europe on Schedule **Page 5**

Scots oil slick

A thirty-mile oil slick off the west of Scotland is affecting the islands of Coll and Tiree, where 150 dead seabirds, mainly guillemots, have been washed ashore.

Anger over bid

The bid for the Eagle Star insurance company by Allianz, of West Germany, has angered British insurers who suffer severe restrictions on their operations in West Germany **Page 13**

Chancellor allows no respite in inflation struggle

● **Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor, said last night there could be "no relaxation of the pressure to keep inflation moving dowm".**

● **Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Bank of England Governor, said failure to keep up the *pressure on inflation would damage* Britain's prospects.**

● **The Stock Exchange Council took the first step in ending minimum commissions by introducing negotiated rates on overseas securities. (Page 13)**

● **Lord Whitelaw will preside over a "star chamber" Cabinet group charged with *reducing the £1,000m public spending* overshoot for 1984-85.**

By Frances Williams and Peter Wilson-Smith

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, last night made plain the Government's unswerving determination to reduce inflation further through tight control of state borrowing and monetary growth.

He told the distinguished audience gathered for the Lord Mayor's banquet in the City of London that there could be "no relaxation of the pressure to keep inflation moving down".

The Chancellor's remarks were strongly supported by Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, in his first big speech since taking ofice in July.

"Nothing would be more damaging to our prospects than failure to sustain the improvement in inflationary expectations, so painfully won", he said.

Mr Lawson was optimistic on inflation prospects, scorning predictions that inflation will rise next year. On the contrary, recent indicators suggested a continuing downward path, he said.

The Government's message was: "*We mean* what we say: and we mean to keep on top of inflation".

The present inflation rate of 5 per cent would have been *thought too high 20 years ago* and it *was* too high, the Chancellor said. He repeated the Conservatives' election manifesto pledge that the Government's *ultimate* objective was price stability.

Mr Lawson said the picture of the British economy was one of *improvement*, of falling inflation and renewed growth. World recovery, too, was clearly under way, and the prospects for continued growth next year and beyond *looked* good, although high interest rates and international debt remained uncertainties.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton said the prospects for growth were better than for years. The international debt crisis was still a preoccupation, while at home unemployment was still edging up and many companies were facing difficulties.

"But we now have low inflation combined with economic recovery and this offers the prospect of sustained improvement for the first time in many years," he said.

On a gloomier note, the *Governor admitted* that the international debt crisis could take years to solve and there were likely to be more difficult problems ahead.

"A durable and satisfactory solution to the debt problem may take a number of years to achieve, and will require perseverance and success on a number of fronts".

The Governor, who was echoed by Mr Lawson, said firm adjustment policies by debtor countries, sustained recovery in the West and a continues flow of finance to the developing world were all needed.

But he gave a warning that banks would not be able to lend money at the rate they had in the past. "Banks now need to strengthen balance sheets, liquidity and capital ratios," he said and suggested that borrowing countries encourage a bigger *flow of direct private investment* to meet their need for long-term finance.

The Chancellor devoted most of his speech, a typical mixture of *optimism and severity, to the* operation of the Govenment's monetary and financial policies.

He emphasizes that he did not intend to change policy *objectives. "Our success in* reducing inflation and creating the conditions for output growth demonstrates that there should be no change in the *overall* strategy."

The Chancellor made it clear that the medium term financial stategy (MTFS), which sets declining targets for money growth and public borrowing several years ahead, would still *mark the cornerstone of the* Government's economic policy. "The MTFS is alive and well", he said.

The Government would aim to reduce *both money growth* and state borrowing further "over the medium term".

And the Chancellor repeated, for the benefit of Cabinet "wets", *that this required* "continued strict control of government spending . . . a task not just for today but throughout this Parliament and *beyound.*"

Mr Lawson did, however, outline some technical changes he is now considering after an internal review of money policy. Contrary to "some *ill*-informed speculation", there would be no target for the exchange rate nor "any complicated mechanical formula linking it with other indicators."

But he was considering introducing a new narrow money measure – MO or monetary base, consisting almost entirely of notes and coins in circulation – which recent evidence suggested would be less distorted than broader measures as a quide to decision on interest rates.

Business News, page 13

'Star chamber' will decide the cuts

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Cabinet took only a few *minutes yesterday* to agree to a "star chamber" procedure under which Lord Whitelaw, the Lord President, will attempt to whittle down the outstanding £1,000m overshoot for public expenditure in 1984-85.

It was said yesterday that Lord Whitelaw would sit with a *few other Cabinet colleagues in* adjudicating between the demands of the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr Peter Rees, and recalcitrant ministers such as *Mr Michael Heseltine*, Secretary for State for Defence, and Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Whitehall sources refused to identify the other members of the committee, but it was said that they were not generally spending ministers. That would make Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr John Biffen, Leader of the Commons, and Lord Cockfield, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, prime candidates for the task.

Before the procedure was nodded through, the Cabinet received an oral report from Mr Rees. It is also understood that *Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of* the Exchequer, gave his colleagues an account of the economic and financial situation. There was no discussion of the Treasury's *public* spending exercise, according to the Whitehall sources.

Mr Rees has managed to bring down *initial departmental* overbids of £6,000m – first to £2,500m "hardcore" spending – and now down to an outstanding £1,000m which is said to include about £800m divided equally between defence and social services.

It was said yesterday that there was no *dispute* among ministers, no matter what political jockeying had been going on at the party conference in Blackpool, about the need to stick to the medium-term financial strategy spending target of £126,400m for 1984-85.

A real political battle will take place when *Mr* Lawson moves into the area of making cuts in the present targets in the hope of achieving tax cuts.

Leading article, page 11



Royal joke: the Queen attending the christening of Princess Theodora, daughter of King Constantine and Queen Anne-Marie of the Hellenes at the St Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Bayswater, London, yesterday (Photograph: John Voos).

Grenada Army imposes shoot-on-sight curfew

From Jeremy Taylor, Port of Spain

Grenada was under the firm control yesterday of its highly politicized armed forces, after the killing of Mr Maurice Bishop, the Prime Minister, and betwen five and nine other people, including three ministers, on Wednesday.

A 24-hour curfew was in force and the islanders were told not to leave their homes until Monday. General Hudson Austin, commander of the Army, *gave a warning on Radio* Free Grenada that anyone violating the curfew would be shot on sight.

Many parts of the island were reported to be without water or electricity, most telephone lines were cut and the Caribbean News Agency correspondent, Mr Alister Hughes, a Grenadian, who provided most of the unofficial information during the week-long political crisis, was detained by security forces.

Accounts of Wednesday's killings conflict sharply, but it *is believed that a large crowd*, estimated at 3,000 to 4,000, marched to Mr Bishop's residence on Mount Royal above the capital, St George's, between 9.30 am and 10.30 am.

Led by Mr Unison Whiteman, who resigned as Foreign Minister on Tuesday, they met only a light military guard which fired warning shots into the air. They stormed the house *and freed Mr Bishop and* Miss Jacqueline Creft, who had resigned as Education Minister, and took them down the hill into St George's towards *Fort Rupert, the old British* garrison overlooking the city harbour, where army officers loyal to Mr Bishop are thought to have been detained.

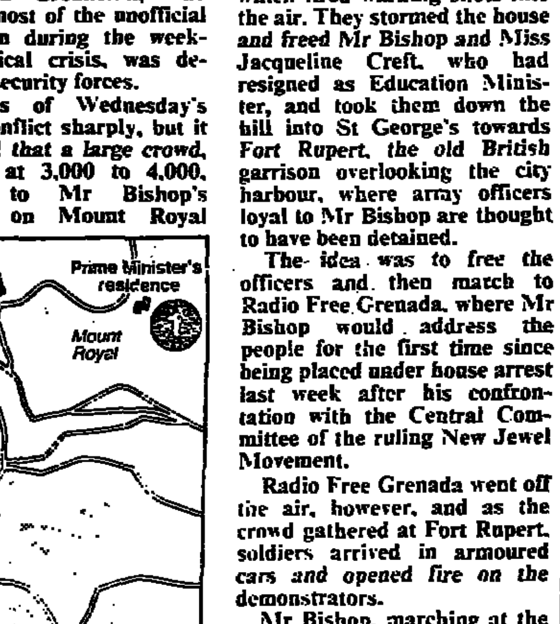
The idea was to free the officers and then march to Radio Free Grenada, where Mr Bishop would address the people for the first time since being placed under house arrest last week after his confrontation with the Central Committee of the ruling New Jewel Movement.

Radio Free Grenada went off the air, however, and as the crowd gathered at Fort Rupert, soldiers arrived in armoured cars *and opened fire on the* demonstrators.

Mr Bishop, marching at the head of the crowd, was among several injured or killed, and Miss Craft was apparently beaten. Mr Bishop was shot in the leg and taken with several other people to hospital.

Seveal hours later, between 9.30 and 10 pm, Radio Free

Continued on back page, col 7



1 9.30-10.30am (local time) Oct 19: Thousands surround official residence of Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop, and free him from house arrest.

2 10.30-12.30: Crowd carry Bishop in triumph towards town centre.

3 1.00: Army arrive, according to some witnesses, fire into crowd and lead Bishop away.

4 1.00: Other witnesses said Bishop and some of crowd marched to Fort Rupert, Army HQ. Soldiers opened fire. Army, says Bishop and crowd capture Army HQ, disarm soldiers, and fire on other soldiers sent to reason with them; Bishop dies in exchange of fire.

Waldorf settlement sought by Yard

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard is negotiating to pay Mr Steven Waldorf damages in an out of court settlement for the injuries he received in a police operation last January, a senior Scotland yard officer said yesterday.

Assistant Commissioner Geoffrey Dear, speaking after the acquittal this week of two detectives on charges involving the shooting of Mr Waldorf, said that a settlement of the damages was "expected quite soon". Discussions have been held between legal advisers for the police and Mr Waldorf but a final figure has yet to be agreed.

During the trial at the Central Criminal Court, Mr Waldorf said he had not been told by doctors of *any permanent* disability after an attack during which he was hit by five bullets and struck across the head.

The court was told he had been critically ill at one point and one injury "was potentially lethal".

There has been speculation *that the claim may be as high as* £1m, but Scotland Yard would not comment on figures yesterday and Mr Waldorf's legal adviser was not available for comment.

Mr Dear disclosed the possibility of a settlement while speaking on BBC radio yesterday as several Labour MPs made calls for a public inquiry into the circumstances of the shooting.

The Police Federation has promised its members that the present guidelines for the police use of guns would be examined and discussed with the Home Office.

Mr Dear, the head of personnel and training at Scotland Yard, said the shooting, after Mr Waldorf was mistaken for David Martin who was at the time a dangerous fugitive, had sent "a shock wave through the police service".

He said the reaction of policemen to the incident and the case was not "a shoot first, ask questions later policy. It has so shocked the police they are much *less likely* to open fire in similar circumstances".

Mr Dear added, that it was unlikely there was anything in *the police rules* on firearms which needed changing but "it is much a question o selection and training".

*He said the policemen acquit*ted on Wednesday had never apologized to Mr Waldorf because their legal advisers had told them to say nothing. The men are now the subject of an internal police discipline inquiry that is likely to centre on whether they broke orders and rules during the shooting.

Mr Waldorf never made an official complaint to Scotland Yard about the incident.

Tougher penalties for big spenders

Jenkin squeezes the cities

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

The Government gave notice yesteday that it will squeeze the high spending Labour-controlled city councils harder than ever in the rates settlement for *1984-85.*

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced that he is to penalize overspending councils so severely that several London councils. Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield may join the Greater London Council and Camden in receiving no rate support grant.

But Mr Jenkin is trying to ensure that rate rises will be low for councils that toe the spending line. He has increased the total money in the grant to £11,800m; £90m more than the previous year.

For councils spending above their targets, the *Government* will hold back grants at the rate of 2p per £1 of rateable value for the first 1 per cent overspent, rising to 4p for the second 1 per cent, 8p for the third and 9p for the fourth.

The style as mush as the content of this government *move is likey to annoy councils.* Instead of convening the Consultative Council on Local Government Finance, where municipal leaders are formally represented. *Mr Jenkin chose to* make his announcement only to council officials who had gone to the Environment Department for a routine meeting.

The Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities last night condemned "Mr Jenkin's total contempt for *agreed procedures*" and criticized the impact of the penalties on impoverished inner city councils.

The exact effect on ratepayers of the new penalty schedule will be difficult to assess until councils start deciding their budgets. It seems, however, that *most of the Conservative* counties and many non-metropolitan district will, provided they trim their spending, increase rates by about 5 per cent. *Some may still be able to reduce* rates.

But some Labour councils in London and the cities are likely to refuse to cut their spending to the required level and will face steep reductions in grant: ratepayers will have to pick up the bill.

Cargo craft sent to aid Salyut

Moscow (AP) – The Soviet Union launched a cargo satellite *carrying "expendable materials"* to the two cosmonauts on board the Salyut 7 space station, which some reports have said is drifting after its *propellant leaked into* space.

Tass said the Progress 18 satellite was launched at 12.59 pm (0959 GMT)

It said the craft had been *launched* "under the programme of ensuring the further functioning of the orbital scientific station Salyut 7"

Abbey man tipped to lead Mirror

Reed International is expected to announce today the *name of the new chairman of its* subsidiary Mirror Group Newspapers, a post which has achieved a new political sensitivity.

The man heavily-tipped last night to lead the group to the Stock exchange is Mr Clive Thornton, aged 53, chief general manager of the Abbey National Building Society.

The most important part of the new chairman's job will be to placate the Labour Party which fears that the Daily Mirror – the only *national daily* to support the party in the last election – could swing to the Right.

Reed intends to sell its interest in *the company outright* which has led to fears in the Labour movement that it could be taken over by a right-wing entrepreneur

Mr Thornton has emerged as the favourite ahead of a string of names which includes a number of former Labour ministers.

His acceptability to the City cill not be challenged, but he is not someone with any strong association with the Labout movement.

Mr Thornton, a former lawyer, is known among his associates as a liberal, but not someone with any strong left-wing sympathies.

Love's labours lost, page 10

Navy Harrier crashes near manor house

From a Staff Reporter

A Royal Navy Sea Harrier exploded in flames close to a manor house yesterday, seconds after the pilot ejected to safety.

The aircraft, from 899 squadron, on a training flight from the Royal Navy Air Station at Yeovilton, Somerset, in Dorset, slightly damaging a farm building. The pilot was unhurt.

Mr David Allen, a worker at the manor said the plane "just blew up".

The Royal Navy said it would investigate the crash.



Anna Ford settles with TV-am

By David Hewson

Anna Ford settled a legal action against her former empoyers TV-am yesterday after the company agreed an out-of-court settlement and offered to re-employ her.

The agreed statement read out in court said: "They (TV-am) are pleased to have resolved their dispute with Miss Ford and the clearest indication of the regard they hold for her is that they are willing to re-employ her in some *suitable* capacity if she is so minded at any time".

But it is unlikely that Miss Ford will return to the breakfast station, which dismissed her in April.



Both parties agreed not to talk about the dispute as part of the settlement, but it is understood that TV-am's offer of re-employment will not be accepted. It is a way of dissociating itself from remarks attributed in a national newspaper to Mr Timothy *Aitken*, TV-am's chief executive, which led to a libel action by Miss Ford which was also settled yesterday.

***Neither side would reveal the* size of the cash settlement, although it was disclosed that TV-am was to pay a sum in respect of Miss Ford's costs.**

She had originally instituted proceedings for damages for breach of contract and for libel, claiming about £137,000 in respect of a two-year contract worth between £70,000 and £75,000 a year.

Lodging the claim in June, Miss Ford said that she had received only two months salary from the company.

Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Mr Eric Varley's decision not to stand again for the Shadow Cabinet is not only a loss to the Labour Party in Parliament. It is also a warning of a more general danger that faces a party that has been out of office for four years and seems bound to have at least another four years in the wilderness: that the longer it is out of government the less it may look as if it would be at home in government.

That was certainly a handicap for Mr Harold Wilson in the early 1960s. Under his leadership, Labour won the 1964 election on the theme of "13 wasted years" under the Conservatives. But one of the reasons Labour won only by the narrowest of margins was that during those 13 years it had lost, in one way or another, most of its senior figures who had served in the Cabinet.

So it was a very inexperienced team that Mr Wilson led back into power. That was a handicap in the campaign and a considerable weakness for the new Government. It is a problem that is now enevitably presented to Labour once again. Indeed, in one sense the difficulty is all the greater this time because Mr Neil Kinnock has never served in any government post.

Mr Varley is not leaving active politics at this stage: otherwise he would not have stood for reelection as party treasurer at Brighton. But his decision to withdraw from the Shadow Cabinet may be interpreted as a sign that he is becoming semi-detached. He is essentially a man of government who is neither at his happiest nor at his best in opposition.

But he is precisely the kind of moderate politician of experienced judgment who helps to make an opposition party look as though it could run the country. If people like him drift away, Labour will look less credible as a potential government, and the less credible Labour look as a potential government the more people like him can be expected to drift away.

Need to strike a balance

So Mr Varley's departure from the front bench makes it all the more important for Mr Kinnock to strike a judicious balance between freshness and experience in his senior Shadow Cabinet placings. His freedom of manoeuvre has to some extent been restricted by Mr Denis Healey's decision to stand again.

It is most improbable Mr Healey would have taken this step without some assurance that he will be reappointed as Shadow Foreign Secretary. Many people will welcome this as evidence that Labour will pursue a policy of international responsibility. But Mr Healey has not always picked the right moment to stand and fight. He is probably not the best person to persuade the party to rethink its foreign and defence policies, and as he will be aged 70 in four years' time, it is hard to believe that he will serve as Foreign Secretary in a future Labour Government.

But Mr Healey's continued presence in the Shadow Cabinet will make it all the more likely that Mr Peter Shore will be moved from the Shadow chancellorship. Now that he is deputy leader, Mr Hattersley could harly be moved from the post of Shadow Home Secretary unless he were to become Shadow Foreign Secretary or Chancellor. Yet it would not be much of an advertisement for the fresh approach if Mr Kinnock were to leave the big three positions in his Shadow Cabinet unchanged.

Exchange of jobs likely

So it seems probable either that there will be a straight exchange of jobs between Mr Hattersley and Mr Shore or that somebody like Mr Gerald Kaufman will be given one of these posts. Several his colleagues mention his name as a possible Shadow Chancellor: his incisive mind and caustic tongue are much admired, and sometimes feared.

It will, however, be a great pity if Mr Shore is left with a minor post in the reshuffle. He suffered a humiliating defeat in the leadership contest, but he fought a more consistently forthright campaign than any of the other candidates. He won much public respect in the process, and he is the kind of politician with the national interest at heart whom Labour needs in senior positions if it is to be convincing to a wider public. The test for Mr Kinnock will be whether he constructs his team to appeal to that wider public, or simply to the party.

Channel tunnel snags remain despite private cash promise

By John Lawless and Michael Baily

The Channel tunnel could be built without government cash help, a study by five banks is to say.

The full report, commissioned by the Department of Transport in June last year, will be with the British and French governments and the European Commission early December, although it is understood that early parts have been submitted for comment.

Sources close to the project said yesterday, however, that the report's findings would by no means clear the way completely for the building of the tunnel.

Although it apparently meets the main demand of the British government: that the project must be a 100 per cent private venture, the potential backers are understood to be seeking assurances on two highly sensitive issues.

The first is that they would not lose money if it were cancelled part-way through construction for non-commercial reasons. The second is that they should have some "assurance" against revenue shortfalls.

They are understood to have emphasized that, even before building gets underway, mobilization costs are going to be extremely high and that a commitment to spend up to £2,000m on the tunnel deserves a small gesture of confidence from Whitehall.

The Department of Transport confirmed yesterday that there could be a guarantee against cancellation for political reasons, but not against failure to complete on other grounds: Nor could there be any Government guarantee against revenue shortfall.

That policy seems unlikely to be softened by a hard-line monetarist like Mr Nicholas Ridley, who took over as Secretary of State for Transport this week, although it is feared that unless the British Government makes a small commitment, the support of the French, backed by the EEC, would be sacrificed.

The most viable scheme is thought to be the twin-bore rail tunnel, as promoted by Tarmac and Wimpey through Channel Tunnel Developments. That would be similar to the scheme cancelled in 1974, in that it would provide both for through train traffic, and for road vehicles carried on shuttle trains.

Its smaller scale makes it easier to finance than the Euroroute scheme backed by Mr Ian McGregor which, with its combined bridge and tunnel solution, would take road vehicles as well as trains, but could cost twice as much.

Kinnock says Tories 'sacrificing industry'

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday exploited Cabinet differences over the Government's economic strategy with an attack on the "zealots who are prepared to sacrifice industries, services and people in obedience to their pre-Churchillian obsessions".

The Labour leader was speaking in Glasgow as it became known that his attempt to draw the Prime Minister into a full Commons confrontation next week about the National Health Service had failed.

The Opposition, after being refused government time for a debate on the issue, has chosen to hold one in its own time, next Thursday, when Mr Kinnock will make his first Commons speech as Leader.

It is usual for the Prime Minister to speak in any debate in which the Leader of the Opposition is participating, but it was disclosed yesterday that Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, would be putting the Government's case. That is seen as a deliberately dismissive gesture on Mrs Thatcher's part.

Mr Kinnock, speaking yesterday to a Newspaper Press Fund lunch, said that the continuing differences in he Conservative Party about economic policy were tangible evidence that the values and strategies of Thatcherism were becoming isolated as the creed of an extremist minority.

He said that if the Chancellor of the Exchequer really wanted to achieve economic recovery he would have to face up to economic reality as the Americans had and relinquish monetary targets, cut interest rates, expand public spending and hold taxes.

Whip ballot

Mr Michael Cocks finished well ahead yesterday in the first ballot for the post of Labour chief whip, the position he has held since 1976.

But although he remains favourite to win the post, it was clear last night that the final result will be tighter than expected and seems likely to go at least to a third ballot.

Mr Cocks, whose reelection is not backed by Mr Kinnock, received 83 of the 193 votes cast, with the remainder divided between the four challengers for the post.

Concession may clinch Nissan deal

By Edward Townsend
Industrial Correspondent

Nissan of Japan is believed to have redrawn its plans for a £500m British car manufacturing plant to defuse opposition from within the company and trade unions before its announcement that it is going ahead with the project.

Nissan may offer to reduce substantially its exports of built-up cars to Britain, running at about 100,000 a year, in return for the British Government's agreement to a much higher imported content in the British-made cars.

The plan announced almost three years ago was for the British factory to produce up to 200,000 Nissans a year with at least 60 per cent European content. The Government emphasised then that it would not countenance a project which was only an assembly plant for Japanese components.

By offering to reduce its car exports, Nissan may persuade the Government to accept a local content of much less than 60 per cent in the initial stages of the development.

That would indicate a much slower build-up of the British plant, which would please those on the Nissan board who have advocated caution in the face of stagnating world car demand.

Indications that a compromise has been reached came in an announcement by the company's chairman, Mr Katsuji Kawamata, thathe had dropped his long-standing objection.

Mr Kawamata has been the chief stumbling block in the way of achieving consensus on the Nissan board. Report from Japan now state that he is in favour of the plan and the company has reiterated that a decision would be make by the end of the year. An announcement is expected within weeks.

Shutler shares chess lead

From Our Chess Correspondent St Peter Port

At the end of round 5 in the Lloyds Bank Guernsey Festival of Chess at St Martin's Hotel, St Peter Port, the lead was still shared by B. Carlier (Netherlands) and S. J. Shutler (England) who each have four points and one unfinished game. They are closely followed by Dr Aitken, N. Carr, H. J. Claskett, and G. Speed, all of whom have four points.

Both C. Plaskett and Dr Aitken won in vigorous and clear-cut style on this round and with two rounds still to go the destination of the leading prizes in far from clear.

Some results of this round:
G Speed ½, A Martin ½; H J Claskett 1, K J Thurlow 0; B H Wood ½, D C Jarrett ½; A J Overbeeke 0, N L Carr 1; Dr J M Aitken 1, I D Thompson 0; J R Hawes ½, J Havenaar ½; R J Gregory 1, W G Clark 0; H Leemans 0, B Horig 1; Miss C Forbes 1, D Perrett 0; E L Palmer 0, F Kok 1.

Tintin and Asterix in 'racist' trouble

By Stephen Goodwin

Tintin and his dog Snowy (right) and Asterix the Gaul, the cartoon heroes, are facing charges in the London Borough of Brent of racism and sexism.

If the case is found proved books featuring them are likely to be removed from the shelves of the borough's libraries.

Complaints have been made by librarians about the "highly offensive" image of black people portrayed

Brent Council has a policy of not displaying books that it considers racist or sexist and so Mr John Clarke, the borough librarian, is examining Tintin and Asterix.

Tintin, created by Hergé, the Belgian cartoonist Georges Remi, who died in March, is considered to be the worst offender. The series first appeared in the 1930s and is undoubtedly a product of the colonial era.

At the borough's Town Hall library, Mr Christopher Dunn, a children's book specialist, pointed out the dilemma of banning two of the most popular characters they stock.

"I would not be sorry to see them go", he said, "but the children probably would.

"All comic books deal in stereotypes and the problem is that that children may absorb this and think that all black people run around in grass skirts."

Retrial for man on rape charge

The trial of a man who claims that he discovered pornographic photographs featuring a leading British politician, a detective sergeant, and a women who has two children, was halted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Judge Miskin, QC, the Recorder, dismissed the jury saying that because the case was taking longer than expected and two jurors had to be excused because of prior holiday agangements, it would be unfair to continue the trial with only 10 jury members.

The retrial will start on November 7 before Mr Justice Croom-Johnson in the High Court.

The man, aged 37, a Southend artist, had denied throughout the 14-day hearing that he raped or assaulted the women in September last year.

He maintained that he had been "fitted up and framed" by the police since finding the alleged photographs in a briefcase belonging to the MP

Although the politician's name has been given in open court, the press have been banned from using it under a Contempt Act ruling.

Sale Room

Autumn cheer as prices for fine wines drop

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Good news for wine bibbers came from Christie's yesterday as prices for fine wines dropped back from their summer levels. Among the 1975 clarets, Lafite was down to £560 a case from £600 in July; Cheval Blanc was selling between £390 and £460 compared to £540 in the summer; Léoville-Las-Cases between £200 and £210 compared to £260 and Giscours at £110 compared to £140.

"It always happens in the autumn", Mr Michael Broadbent of Christie's wine department said. "People think it is a good time to sell and too much wine comes on the market for prices to hold".

Christie's have a wine sale scheduled almost every week between now and Christmas. In particular, the good 1975 and 1976 vintages are being sold in large quantities to pay for stocks of 1982. Those wines, not quite ready for drinking, are particularly good buys, according to Mr Broadbent.

On Wednesday Sotheby's risked their biggest jewel sale since the diamond market went shaky in New York. The diamond market proved strong although there were still weak areas and 29 per cent was left unsold with a total of £5.6m

An emerald-cut diamond weighing 24.93 carats and mounted in platinum as a ring sold for $880,000 (estimate $800,000 to $900,000) or £582,781 to an unnamed dealer. A 28.18 carat Kashmir sapphire surrounded by 32 little diamonds as a ring made $676,000 (estimate $600,000 to $650,000) or £447,682.

Christie's sale of silver, furniture and works of art in Rome on Wednesday made £110,587 with 33 per cent left unsold. A pair of late nineteenth century French silver candelabra with seven branches held up by a girl who is held in the air by a boy sold for 17m lire (estimate 16m to 19m) or £7,083.

Correction

A thirteenth century Persian bronze bowl inlaid with silver was bought in at £20,000 in Sotheby's Islamic sale on Wednesday not at £200,000 as reported yesterday.



Entente cordiale: President Mitterand with Mrs Thatcher on his arrival at RAF Northolt, west London, yesterday for a 24-hour visit to discuss nuclear defence policy and reforms of the EEC. (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

New threat to phone services

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Telephone services face disruption after a threat by switchboard operators to take industrial action in support of the Post Office Engineers Union's campaign against the sale of British Telecom.

The Union of Communication Workers has about 40,000 members in British Telecom, mainly women telephone operators in exchanges, and it is understood that some are to join the dispute, possibly today. The two unions have held secret talks over the past week preparing further action in the dispute.

Neither union was prepared to comment last night on the prospect of the operaors' involvement, but it will be seen by British Telecom as a serious worsening of the dispute.

The POEU will be in the High Court today to hear the result of the three-day hearing of an application for an injunction against the union to halt its blacking of Mercury, British Telecom's private rival.

Union officials have decided that if the injunction is granted they will lodge an appeal. Mercury has indicated that it will do the same if the injunction if refused. The union will hold discussions with the TUC next week over the legal implication for the union movement if an injunction is granted.

The POEU also decided yesterday to support 19 engineers who are due on Monday to become the first to be dismissed by British Telecom in this dispute. The men who work in and around London, have been issued with dismissal warnings for refusing to cross picket lines when they were taken by coach into cental London to fill vacancies left by POEU members either on strike or suspended.

The men had, on union instructions, signed a good behaviour pledge and because they refused to abide by the terms of the agreement, British Telecom has said it will dismiss them at 5 pm on Monday. Union officials had told the men that their advice indicated the agreement they signed was legally irrelevant.

POEU leaders agreed last night that they would pay the normal wages of the men if they were dismissed, but there was no immediate suggestion that union would take retaliatory action.

Dimbleby explains print plant closure

By Paul Chadecki

Today's edition of the Richmond and Twickenham Times, the first for nine weeks, carries a statement from the Dimbleby Newspaper Group giving its explanation of the National Graphical Association (NGA) dispute that had led to the closure of the company's printing works and had halted the newpaper's production.

The statement from Mr David Dimbleby, chairman and managing director of Dimbleby and Sons, claims that although the NGA was aware of the damage being caused during the strike, which centred on the proposed redundancy of three printing workers, it ignored urgent requests for talks aimed at resolving the issue.

The company said it first approached the NGA about the redundancies last February and subsequently reduced them to two in an attempt to compromise. "For over twelve months', the statement says "we had been employing three printers on full pay who only had work to do on one day a week. It was quickly apparent that the NGA had no intention of allowing us to make any redundancies.

By early August, NGA officials had not made contact, it says, "despite our asking for urgent meetings for six weeks". The company told its NGA members that two redundancies and cuts in unworked overtime were urgently needed. There was still no response from NGA officials. NGA members imposed an overtime ban. After two weeks, the company issued the two redundancy notices.

"Before these fell due on August 24, the machine minders went on strike.

Withe the strike in its sixth week, and the NGA refusing to help produce the newspaper on different presses, the loss of revenue force the newspaper group to choose between selling the newspaper or, s it decided, closing the printing works.

Free paper closes

The Sunday Journal, intended to be Britain's first national free newspaper, has ceased publication.

The Oxford-based company which publishes it has announced that a strike by 22 members of the NGA had left it with "no alternative", but to abandon its Oxford and Chiltern editions, with the loss of between fifty and sixty jobs.

Mr Tony Rosser, the company's chairman said yesterday that the group would nott distribute on Sundays and would concentrate on its range of weekly free papers.

Unions combine to fight pit closures

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Leaders of all three unions drew up a joint strategy yesterday for opposing pit closures and manpower reductions to put to the National Coal Board and Government.

At a meeting in London, mine workers, pit deputies and colliery managers resolved to provide "all possible mutual support and assistance in order to prevent further rundown" and agreed a programme of cash measures almost certain to be rejected by the Government.

That decision brought together for the first time the National Union of Mineworkers; the National Association of Colliery Overman, Deputies and Shotfirers; and the British Association of Colliery Management.

They will ask Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy for talks on import controls, subsidies and capital reconstruction of the coal board.

A special NUM delegate conference today will consider a national overtime ban over colliery closures and the Board's "final" 5.2 per cent pay offer.

The three organizations signed a statement yesterday reaffirming their faith in a long-term expansion of coal output, and attacking the board's intention to close 70 pits with the loss of 70,000 jobs.

They called on Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the board, to back up their demands for import controls

Closed shop challenge by driver

From Our Correspondent, Cambridge

An industrial tribunal in Cambridge was told yesterday that its decision in a closed shop test case could affect the future of trade union bargaining.

Richard Shackcloth, aged 27, of Purwell Lane, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, was dismissed as a delivery driver by a subsidiary of the Littlewoods Mail Order firm, Home Delivery Service, of Hitchin, when he decided he wanted to leave the Union and pay his 45p-a-week dues to the NSPCC.

Mr Shackcloth claims that when he joined the closed shop firm his contract obliged him to join a union or, if he held strong objections, to pay the equivalent of the union subscription to charity.

He stayed in the union for three-and-a-half years but became disillusioned and decided on grounds of "conscience and deeply held personal conviction" to resign.

Mr Shackcloth was dismissed from the £60 a week job when he insisted on his right to resign from the union.

Mr Ian Mayes, counsel for the firm, said if a man could leave a union because he disliked it or disagreed with a particular action, then the whole basis of closed shop bargaining for all the workforce would go.

The tribunal will announce its decision later.

Cut in Civil Service on target

By David Cross

Mrs Margaret Thatcher seems likely to be able to keep her promise to reduce the size of the Civil Service to 630,000 by next April.

According to the latest statistics, published by the Treasury yesterday, the number of civil servants had fallen by 89,800, or 12.2 per cent, to a total of 642,800 at the last count on July 1. That was the lowest figure for 22 years.

Other figures showed that the largest reductions since January 1, 1979, had taken place in the Ministry of Defence, the Department of the Environment, the Inland Revenue, and the Customs and Excise.

The Treasury conceded, however, that a few departments had increased in size since Mrs Thatcher took office.

Staff* in 7 largest departments: changes between 1.1.79 and 1.1.83

	Change	Percentage change
MoD	−38 400	−15.4
DHSS	−3 000	−3.0
Inland Reve	−11 500	−13.5
Employment Group	+4 000†	+7.4
DoE (incl PSA)	−15 000	−26.5
Home Off	+1 500	+4.4
Customs	−3 000	−11.5
Other depts	−15 000	−11.2
All depts	−80 000‡	−11.0

* Part-time staff are counted as half units.
† Consisting of increase of 6,800 in DoE and decreases totalling 2,800 elsewhere in group.
‡ Changes do not sum to total because of roundings.

Researchers link the Pill with Cancer

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

The strongest evidence so far linking oral contraceptives with cancer is published by two separate research groups in the Lancet today.

One study relates prolonged use of certain "high dose" pills before the age of 25 to a significant increased risk of breast cancer. The other suggests the pill might stimulate the development of cervical cancer.

Last night the Family Planning Association issued a statement warning against over-reaction: "Since breast cancer in particular is such an emotive subject likely to cause alarm in any woman, it is important that women do not panic unnecessarily and stop taking the pill without medical advice, thereby risking an unplanned pregnancy".

The report on breast cancer was based on a study at the University of Southern California of 314 patients in Los Angeles whose tumours were diagnosed before the age of 37.

They were compared with 314 healthy women of the same ages and social background.

Most oral contraceptives are "combination" pills, containing two types of hormone: oestrogen and progestogen. The Los Angeles study links high levels of progestogen with breast cancer. Women who took high-progestogen pills for at least six years before reaching 25 were four times more likely to develop breast cancer than women who used other contraceptives.

The Lancet paper on cervical cancer is by Professor Martin Vessey and three colleagues at Oxford University's department of community medicine. They found 13 cases of invasive cancer amongst 6,834 British pill-users and none in a group of 3,154 women fitted with intra-uterine devices. Pre-cancerous cell growth in the cervix was also more common among pill users, and its incidence increased with the number of years on the pill.

"We regard our findings, especially those for invasive cancer of the cervix, as disturbing (although not, of course, conclusive)", the Oxford group said.

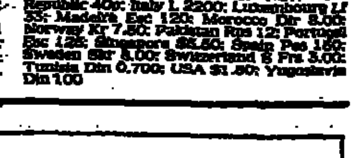
The Department of Health's Committee on gynaecological cytology, which saw an advance copy of the Oxford Report, recommends additional cervical smears for users and former users of oral contraceptives.

The Los Angeles study established a stronger statistical connexion between breast cancer and taking high-progestogen pills under 25. But the drug industry has reduced hormone levels in pills steadily over recent years.

Dr Malcolm Pike, who moved recently from California to Oxford as Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Epidemiology Unit, said yesterday that only a small proportion of the oral contraceptives now prescribed in Britain contain enough progestogen to cause concern. Brands with high "progestogen potency" include Ovulen 50, Ovran, Ovranet, Anovlar 21, Gynovlar 21 and Conova 30.

Several studies have shown clearly that oral contraceptives can protect against some other cancers, particularly of the ovaries and the lining of the womb.

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 28; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 180; Cyprus 850 mils; Denmark Dkr 7.50; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 100; Holland Gl 3.25; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 55; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 7.50; Pakistan Rps 12; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $5.50; Spain Pes 150; Sweden Skr 8.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.80; Yugoslavia Din 100



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Synod to debate proposal to allow remarriage in church after full inquiry

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Details of the recommended procedure to be used before divorced persons are allowed a second marriage in the Church of England are published today.

The proposals will be put before the General Synod for approval next month. However, there are indications that opponents of remarriage in church will attempt to defeat them in a last-ditch effort to maintain the church's traditional opposition to divorce.

The proposals, which if agreed will appear in the form of a handbook make it clear that the obtaining of a dispensation from the bishop for a second church wedding will be a formidable business. An extensive and thorough investigation by the clergyman concerned would be conducted to establish:

- Whether one of the couple was responsible for the ending of a previous marriage;
- If so whether there is "true repentance";
- Whether sufficient efforts were made to save the previous marriage;
- Whether former wives and children of former marriages are being properly supported, compliance wiht court orders not neceessarily being sufficient;
- Whether the present applicants now understand and accept the obligations of church marriage, including its permanence;
- Whether the first marriage was really a Christian marriage at all, or whether it could be deemed null and void.

The answers to those questions will go to a panel of advisers, who will recommend to the bishop whether to grant permission and declare the previous vows no longer in force. In cases of refusal there will be no appeal, and the couple will not be entitled to know the reasons.

The proposals make a substantial concession to those who opposed the decision in principle last July, by including an investigation into the possibility of de facto nullity. At the Synod's debate, the Anglo-Catholic group made clear that nullity, in the sense understood in the Roman Catholic churches marriage discipline, was the only ground on which they could permit remarriage.

It is understood that in drafting that section, the Anglican working party sought and received advice from priests of the Roman Catholic marriage tribunal in Westminster.

The section, the draft document states, should be dealt with by all clergy conducting such inquiries, and not only those who believe remarriage should be confirmed to cases where nullity can be alleged.

The clergyman should inquire, the document suggests, whether there was a serious defect of intention in one or both partners to the former marriage, and whether consent to that marriage was freely and fully given.

The previous vows should not ber called in question without clear evidence, "but by actions and behaviour, as well as by statements and agreements, one or both parties to a marriage may have revealed absence of intention to achieve a marriage according to the church's teaching".

The diocesan synod of Salisbury has already declared its continuing opposition to remarriage, and elsewhere in England meetings have taken place since July to support that view.

It was in July that the General Synod agreed, after more than a decade of debate and indecision, to permit remarriage in certain circumstances. It asked for detailed proposals for implementing this. It is those that are now published.

The synod will also again debate the proposal, last defeated about three years ago, that women priests ordained in the Anglican Communion overseas should be accepted as visiting priests on the same terms as men.

The synod is also likely to debate the stationing of cruise missiles in Britain, although such a debate would require the synod to agree to alter its own agenda.



Ancient and modern: A sea coal collector and his horse gathering fuel near Lynemouth, Northumberland. The coal will be used by the power station behind, which drives the modern Alcan smelter nearby. (Photograph: Stuart Bonney).

Pop stars on apartheid blacklist

By Richard Dowden

Elton John, Shirley Bassey, Leo Sayer and the pop group, Hot Gossip are named on a list of musicians and actors who have visited South Africa recently which has been drawn up by the United Nations Centre Against Apartheid.

The list, which is to be published in New York on Monday, is also understood to include the Beach Boys and Frank Sinatra.

One of the people involved in drawing up the list said that he hoped that countries would apply the same sanctions to those people as had been applied to sportsmen who went to South Africa and refuse them visas.

The list which is also understood to contain the names of Spike Milligan, Marti Caine, Christian Blackshaw and Peter Sarsted, contains the names of all those musicians and artists who have visited South Africa since January 1981. Most of them have appeared at Sun City the vast leisure and entertainment centre in the Bophuthatswana homeland.

But one of those named, the composer and pianist Donald Swann, went as a guest of the Christian Fellowship Trust which is connected to the Christian Institute, an anti-apartheid body founded by Dr Beyers Naudé which was banned by the South African Government in 1977.

BL pays £8,000 to 'The Mole'

Mr Alan Thornett, a former British Leyland shop steward, known as 'The Mole' has been paid £8,000 in an out-of-court settlement for losing his job, an industrial tribunal at Reading was told yesterday.

Mr Thornett, of Bartlemas Road, Oxford, was dismissed as a lorry driver last November after the company discovered that his heavy goods vehicle licence had lapsed for more than four years. The company also claimed that he falsified sick notes.

Throwing light on bulb prices

The price of a standard 100-watt light varies between 29p and 69p, a National Federation of Consumer Groups survey says. The best buy was the British Home Stores' double-life bulb, which cost 18.35 per 1,000 hours of life.

The federation gives a warning that bulbs marked "for longer life" or "extended life" are not double-life bulbs, which should be marked "2,000 hours".

PC dismissed

Police Constable Robert Joll, aged 32, of Sketty, Swansea, was dismissed from South Wales police force yesterday after being found guilty of punching a handcuffed prisoner in the face. He was fined £400 by Merthyr magistrates and ordered to pay £131 costs.

£50,000 raid

Four armed men, one disguised as a woman, escaped yesterday with nearly £50,000 in a payroll robbery yesterday. They threatened security guards in Birmingham who were delivering the money to a firm in Perry Barr.

Family life and the jet setters

By a Staff Reporter

The image of the jet-setting American business man or woman who has not time for the family is belied by an international survey which shows that American executives are more involved with their families.

According to the survey of 565 executives' spouses from 13 countries, 60 per cent of Americans who replied felt their partners did their fair share of domestic chores and 86 per cent did their fair share of "parenting". British executives scored lowest in this area with only 58 per cent doing their share of "parenting", according to their marriage partners.

The Americans also seemed most involved in their partners' careers, with 67 per cent saying they were "closely" involved.

***International Management* magazine says "the survey presents a picture of the executive's spouse as somewhat overburdened with the domestic details of life, interested in the executive's career, a useful and responsive sounding board for problems, grateful for any help with household chores, and generally content, except for the ever-present threat of relocation".**

Only 12 per cent of those who replied felt that their partner's job was causing problems in the marriage, but 45 per cent blamed it for marital stress, and 34 per cent said it caused other stress. Nearly half the British spouses said the job caused difficulties with raising children.

Nearly three-quarters of the spouses and 82 per cent of the British respondents did not feel they had sacrificed their careers for their partners'. But 80 per cent of the British people who felt they had made such a sacrifice did so with regrets or very reluctantly.

The complete survey is available from Jennifer Vint, *International Management*, Mcgraw-Hill House, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 2QL (£15).

Ford tells dealers to cut service charges

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Ford is urging its dealers to cut their prices for service and repair work to win back substantial business now being lost to "quick-fit" specialists, backstreet garages, and do-it-yourself motorists.

A two-year market survey has shown that only one in three owners take their cars to a franchised dealer. The remainder said that price and convenience were the deciding factors in using heavily advertised "quick-fit" specialists for exhausts, brake, and clutch replacements, and high street shops for do-it-yourself parts purchases.

The increasing drain on dealers' finances has come at a time when Ford, as with all the large car companies, has doubled the interval between services in recent years while making the actual work of servicing much easier.

Dealers were previously able to offset the fall in profits as a result of the cut-price war in new car sales with servicing

Ford is to launch a "Check Ford First" advertising campaign and dealers who want help with local advertising and promotion are being told: "You will have to trim your profit margins on both parts and labour charges".

Ford, along with Austin-Rover, and Vauxhall, will benefit from a 20 per cent increase in the number of "British" cars bought next year by Dial Contracts, which claims to be the market leader in company car leasing.

Fiat says Which? car survey was biased

A recent survey by *Which?* that is highly critical of Fiat cars, was attacked yesterday by the Italian company's chief executive in Britain as "blatantly biased" and "unrealistic".

Signor Pietro Quaglia, the managing director of Fiat Auto UK, told *The Times*: "I have never seen a report which, while pretending total objectivity, condemns in such a biased and generalized way making damaging statements on the basis of urealistically small sample sizes and the subjective assessment of models now out of production."

He said that photographs of five of the six Fiat models used to illustrate the report were of the latest models although findings and comments were based on earlier models and in one case referred to "a different car altogether".

Mr Quaglia's complaints were contained in a letter to *The Times*. Last night the Consumers' Association, which owns *Which?* magazine, declined to comment unless it received a copy of the letter in full. Mr Quaglia refused to release it "because we are considering what further action we may take".

Law Society conference

Conflict over conveyancing

From Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent, Paris

Moves by building societies to obtain powers to offer a cheaper conveyancing service pose a serious threat to the continuing viability of private practice, Mr Christopher Hewetson, president of the Law Society, told its national conference in Paris yesterday.

The societies wanted the power to do conveyancing, estate agency and insurance. There was "a considerable threat from cartels of building societies forcing the price down and doing what they like then they get rid of us".

On average more than half of solicitors' income comes from conveyancing. They have 99 per cent of the business.

Mr Hewetson urged the conference to "be wary of any proposal which, while offering some superficial attractions may, in the process, wreak irreparable damage on the existing network for the provision of legal services in our country and the public's ability to receive impartial and objective advice from lawyers".

He told reporters later: "I am asking that the battered wife can hear advice from the man in the high street who is not closed down".

But Mr David Tench, legal officer of the Consumers Association, said the association has promoted a private member's Bill, now before Parliament, to open the way to licensing "conveyancers" in competition with solicitors. The Bill is being presented by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, and will have its second reading on December 16.

There were many in the profession who would fight for monopoly to the last ditch. "Why don't we concede the principle and fight fo the work?" Solicitors must show that they can do conveyancing best.

Answering the point that, without conveyancing usiness other legal services could not be maintained, Mr Tench said that conveyancing was too expensive ans not efficient, while justice was obtained "on the cheap". "There is no case for the house buyer to subsidize litigants."

Each area of the service must be self sufficient and each member of the public should pay for the service received, Mr Tench said.

Complaints system attacked

The way the Law Society handles complaints against its members is criticized in the leading legal magazine *New Law Journal* today.

Mr Walter Merricks, a solicitor, has written in the *Journal* about a barrister's fight to recover £800 in overdue fees from a solicitor and the Law Society's decision to take no action.

The *Journal* had earlier called for an inquiry into the society's complaints procedure over the case of Mr Glanville Davies, who overcharged a client by more than £100,000.

The society is alleged to have failed to investigate a series of complaints against Mr Davies, and the High Court is to rule on who should pay the costs of the client's action to get Mr Davies struck off.

In the case reported by Mr Merricks today, the fees had been due to the barrister for four or five years when he threatened to report the solicitor to the Law Society.

The solicitor sent the money, but threatened to withdraw all work from all members of the barrister's chambers.

The barrister referred the isse to the Law Society, Mr Merricks says, but he was told it was not appropriate to take any disciplinary action.

That decision is causing concern among barristers who are worried about late payment but are not allowd to sue

Last year the Law Society and the Bar Council agreed that solicitors who paid late should be reported to the society unless there was a satisfactory explanation.

Mr Merricks said barristers feared that solicitors would retaliate by withdrawing business, but it was argued that if every case had to be reported, barristers could not be subject to individual pressures.

The case reported by Mr Merricks will tend to confirm their fears.

Coronation Street actor dies

By David Hewson

Mr Peter Dudley, aged 47, who played Bert Tilsley in *Coronation Street*, died yesterday in the hospital where his television wife, Lynne Perrie, was taken with a heart condition on Wednesday.

Mr Dudley was written out of the programme in July because of chronic heart trouble

Mr Mervyn Watson, the programme's producer, said: "We are absolutely stunned. He will be sadly missed because he made a very wonderful contribution to the programme."



Peter Dudley and Lynne Perrie

Granada TV, which produces *Coronation Street*, denied that cast problems would disrupt schedules.

Pat Phoenix, an original cast member of 23 years' standing who plays Elsie Tanner, will leave the programme in January.

Doris Speed, aged 84, who plays Annie Walker, the publican; is in hospital with stomach trouble, and Geoffrey Hughes (Eddie Yeats) and Veronica Doran (Marion Willis) leave the programme shortly.

British pupils 'lag in maths'

By Nick Wood

British children of below-average ability trail a full two years behind their West German conterparts in mathematical attainment, according to a detailed new comparison of education standards in the two countries.

The study shows that examination results achieved by children in the bottom half of the ability range are extremely poor compared with those obtained in the West German *hauptschule*, equivalent to the old British secondary modern school.

Two of three school-leavers in England and Wales failed to get at least a Certificate of Secondary Education grade five in a core of three subjects by English, mathematics and science – but nine out of ten West Germans were awarded their leaving certificates, for which they had to pass nine out of ten subjects.

The findings come from a study by Professor Sig Prais and Dr Karin Wagner, and are contained in a pre-publication discussion document issued by the National Institute of Social and Economic Research.



Alleged rape victim held for contempt

James King, aged 27, of King's Cross Road, Dundee, was cleared by the High Court in Dundee yesterday of assault with intent to rape. His alleged victim, aged 22, was detained in custody after being convicted of contempt of court.

On Wednesday the alleged victim refused to say anything because she and King were friends.

The presiding judge, Lord Wylie, defered sentence until November 3 at the High Court in Edinburgh, describing it as "a most unusual case". The woman was detained in custody for social reports.



Tractors to suit small farmers

By John Young Agriculture Correspondent

Tractor manufactureres, who for several years have been introducing larger and larger models as grain acreages have expanded, are turning to the needs of small farmers.

The extremes of scale are represented by the Deere 8850, pictured above, manufactured in the United States, which generates 352 hp and is claimed to be the largest and most pewerful in the world, and the same company's new 1140 LP (right). This is only 56 hp and is intended primarily for livestock and dairy farmers.



Mr Douglas Walker, managing director of John Deere Ltd, says that small cost-conscious customers make up 80 per cent of the market and may have been deterred previously by the company's up-market image.

The 1040 LP, made in Germany, costs £8,736, compared with £78,300 for the 8850.

Greeks open rival school

By David Cross

The socialist government of Greece is to open a nursery and primary school in Holland Park next week to rival a private Greek school in London, which has the former King Constantine as one of its leading trustees.

The new school, which will occupy premises in a building next to the Greek Embassy, is expected to enroll between 40 and 50 children between the ages of four and twelve.

The opening of the state-financed school comes after a dispute between the Greek Government and the Hellenic College in Pont Street, Knightsbridge, over the former king's support for the school.

The government in Athens objected to some of the teachers at the college continuing to use royal titles to address the former monarch's three teenage children, Paul, Nicholas and Alexia, in their classrooms.

LSE rejects idea to buy racehorse

By Richard Evans

Faced with spending a £10,000 windfall on a racehorse or a nursery, the students of the London School of Economics settled yesterday for a traditional British compromise, and rejected both ideas.

The refund from the Department of Health and Social Security will remain invested in Charter Trust and earn the students' union £1,100 a year.

At the best-attended student meeting for years, where paper darts rained down on speakers, voting tended to follow party-political lines.

The left vociferously supported giving the cash towards nursery facilities, while the right favoured indulgence on the turf. In the end neither achieved the necessary two-thirds majority and a decidedly boisterous "silent majority" won the day.

During an intense propaganda battle the LSE Labour group issued a pamphlet which said that the racehorse plan was, at best, a pathetic public-school wheeze and, at worst, a piece of callous manoeuvering by Tories.

The right, spearled by elements within *Beaver*, the students' newspaper, published a leaflet, *Vote for the Horse*, which reminded students of their expensive mistake last year when they rejected a plan to disaffiliate from the National Union of Students and to spend the money on a horse.

The horse named Caballo, won two races, trebled in value, and would have made a £10,000 profit.

Mr Martin Graham, who was behind both schemes suggested rectiffing the mistake buying Enbyar Dan, a Newmarket-trained novice hurdler with "bags of potential". His idea failed to win a simple majority.

Embryo 'doing well' after being deep frozen

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A description published yesterday of attempts by one of the world's leading test tube-baby teams to produce the first birth from embryos that have been deep-frozen before being implanted is certain to cause a further dispute in this emotionally charged area.

In addition to explaining how an embryo is preserved at -200C, thawed, then transferred to an infertile woman, the doctors also discuss the ethics of deep-freeze storage.

They say that if the survival periods of frozen embyros approach the number of years observed in other animals difficulties may arise if parents disagree on their eventual destination. Patients may be asked to include in their wills their preferences concerning the destination of embryos in case of death.

The options may include the donation of embryos to couples where both husband and wife are sterile.

A paper by Dr Alan Trounson and Dr Linda Mohr, of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia, in the latest issue of *Nature* describes the first attempts involving 15 patients.

One pregnancy was established and lasted 23 weeks before ending in still birth in June because of an infection of the womb.

The same method has been repeated, and a second 12-week embryo, is said to be progressing normally.

In the preparation for fertilization outside the womb, atients are treated with hormones before eggs are removed from the ovary.

The preparatory treatment increases ovulation, and five or six embryos may be produced.

Mortality rate down

Social improvements and medical advances have led to a big fall in still births and infant deaths, the Greater Glasgow Health Board said yesterday.

In under 10 years deaths of children in the first week of life and born to women living in the area covered by the board have fallen from 23 in every 1,000 to 10.4 a 1,000.

Judge in air disaster inquiry loses fight to clear his name

By David Cross and William Reeves

A former New Zealand High Court judge, whose criticism of those involved in his country's worst aircraft disaster resulted in his resignation, yesterday lost his final attempt to clear his name.

In a 30-second hearing of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, New Zealand's highest court of appeal, Lord Diplock announced that he and four other Law Lords would "humbly advise Her Majesty that the appeal ought to be dismissed".

Mr Peter Mahon, who led a Royal Commission of inquiry into the 1979 crash of an Air New Zealand DC-10 into Mount Erebus in the Antarctic, had asked the Privy Council to restore his costs order against the airline, which had been set aside by the New Zealand Court of Appeal.

Lord Diplock said that the judge had wrongly accused Air New Zealand of orchestrating "a litany of lies" in its evidence about the crash in broad daylight in which 257 people died.

Although the airline's evidence showed "appalling blunders and deficiencies", there were no grounds for the judge's costs order based on his finding of "a predetermined plan of deception" by airline staff.

He added that the Privy Council's costs decision was intended to reflect "their Lordships' view that the time for bitter feelings is over", although nothing could console the victims relatives.

Nevertheless, yesterday's 38-page ruling by the Privy Council is unlikely to be the last word on a case which has aroused more controversy than the original air crash. Mr Mahon, who insisted as one of the conditions for his resignation that the New Zealand Government should pay the bill for his appeal to be referred to London, is reported to be writing a book on his experiences and his campaign to clear his name, which provoked arguments with senior Air New Zealand executives and with Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister.

In his report into the disaster which led to his resignation, he said: "The palpably false sections of evidence which I heard could not have been the result of mistake or faulty recollection. They originate, I am compelled to say, in a predetermined plan of deception.

"They were very clearly part of an attempt to conceal a series of disastrous administrative blunders and so . . . I am forced reluctantly to say that I had to listen to an orchestrated litany of lies."

Mr Mahon's conclusions were based principally on the allegation that new direction coordinates had been fed into the aircraft's flight computer without the pilot's knowledge. His order that the airline should pay NZ dollars 150,000 (about £66,000) towards the cost of the inquiry prompted the resignation of Mr Morrie Davis, the company's chief executive, who said that he hoped that Mr Mahon's "irresponsible rhetoric will haunt him for the rest of his life".

Mr Muldoon, who supported the airline, maintained that some of the findings reached by the judge were not supported by the evidence. "As far as his 'litany of lies' is concerned", Mr Muldoon said, "I can see nothing in the report to support that comment."

Law Report, page 6

Housing cut 'will cost jobs'

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

House-builders yesterday described the Government's cut in home improvement funds as "devastating" and predicted up to 30,000 redundancies as a result.

The National Home Improvement Council, which represents manufacturers of building materials, said that repairs were very labour intensive and the Government had declared effectively a freeze on housing improvements until 1985.

The Building Trades Employers' Federation said that there would be a substantial increase in the 400,000 workers already laid off.

City councils said that the decision to cut the Exchequer subsidy for home improvement grants and to cut their advances would lead to further deterioration of the 5.2 million homes in England built before the First World War.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities has calculated that it will take 900 years for the existing stock of houses in Britain to be replaced, assuming a useful life of about 60 years for each home.

Classroom reform urged by ICI man

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Newmarket

The examination system and what children learn in schools were criticized yesterday by Mr Bob Finch, schools liaison officer for ICI, who said that without change the country would pay a heavy price.

Reform of the system was being blocked by parents and politicians, who had a touching faith in O levels, he told a training conference for deputy heads, organized by the Cambridge Institute for Education in Newmarket.

The curriculum was too narrow and children should not be taught in the present "boxes" of subjects, he said.

The examination system was unsatisfactory because it labelled most children as failures and was in any case, inefficient at what it attempted to do.

Mr Finch said that employers were critical of the present system. They were often much more forward-looking that the education world, and certainly much more so than they were given credit for, he said.

Parents were the key to change and had to be involved in schools on a more regular basis.

Conceding that it was difficult to persuade those who had done well out of present system, he said parents could be won round in the end. "Employers will be won round more quickly because there is a great deal of dissatisfaction in Marks and Spencer, BP and in the banks". This was the time to change because people could see that an education was not necessarily leading either to university, a polytechnic or a job.

"One of the inadequacies of the curr..m is that it concentrates almost entirely on the acquistion and regurgitation of knowledge", he said. What employers really wnted were people with the ability to work as a team and who were able to make decisions on limited information, such as a young girl who threw her brothers and sisters to safety out of the window when the family home was burning down. ICI needed graduates with the abilities, he said.

Mr Finch, who is amember of the Hargreaves Committee looking at under-achievement in inner London, also said that schools were ludicrously undercapitalized in new technology.

Whisky case hearing adjourned

The hearing of a case in which a Crown Court judge and a secondhand car dealer are accused of attempting to evade customs duty on cigarettes, tobacco and liquor was adjourned by Ramsgate magistrates in Kent yesterday.

Neither the judge, Keith Bruce Campbell, aged 67, of King's Bench Walk, Temple, London, nor Alan Raphael Foreman, aged 45, of Parkside House, High Street, Wimbledon, south west London, was present.

They face three joint charges under the Customs and Excise Act, 1969.

The two men are accused of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent attempt at evasion of duty chargeable on 9,460 cigarettes, 500 grammes of tobacco, a litre each of vodka, gin and Drambuie and 125 litres of whisky on August 21.

They are also charged with failing to make report by not flying a yellow flag after crossing the limits of the customs port of Ramsgate, and failing to deliver the relevant customs document to a customs officer.

Campaign against cruise

CND expects 200,000 on march

By a Staff Reporter

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is expecting more than 200,000 supporters in central London on Saturday to launch the final stage of its struggle to keep cruise missiles out of Britain.

The protesters, who will arrive in more than 400 chartered coaches and 40 special trains, will take part in two marches from the Victoria Embankment to Hyde Park, accompanied by music and street entertainers.

The day-long protest will culminate in a rally in the park, where speakers will include such stalwarts of the peace movement as Mr E. P. Thomson, the historian, Mgr Bruce Kent, general secretary of CND, and Bishop Trevor Huddleston, president of the National Peace Council, as well as Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, and Mr Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal MP for Yeovil.

Mgr Kent has said that the scale of the demonstration will make it clear to the Government that it had not won the argument about the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain. The issue had hardly come up during the election campaign "except in the most crude propagandist" fashion.

He has conceded, however, that he is less hopeful than he was at the beginning of the year of persuading Britain and other Nato governments to abandon cruise and Pershing missiles.

The main hope lay in West Germany where the scale of this week's demonstrations showed the "extremely fluid" state of public opinion.

If, however, missiles appeared in Britain, the peace movement would make it "extremely difficult" for them to be deployed beyond the confines of their bases.

Saturday's marches and rally will have more international flavour than earlier CND protests. Representatives of the United States peace movement such as Sister Mary Luke Tobin, an anti-Vietnam war activist, will be joining the demonstration together with 70 members of the American Bread and Puppet Theatre Company, who have brought more than a ton of equipment by chartered plane to stage plays.

The marches, parts of which are more likely to resemble a carnival than an expression of discontent, are likely to choke the area between Waterloo and Wesminster bridge.

The two files of protesters will leave the Victoria Embankment at about 11.30 am. They will pass Whitehall where leaders will lay a wreath at the Centotaph.

Homecoming: Relatives and children welcoming some of the 66 political prisoners released yesterday in Argentina. They were said to be the last of more than 5,000 imprisoned in the mid 1970s.

Big Soviet offensive launched in Afghanistan

From Our Own Correspondent
Delhi

A major Russian offensive is under way in Afghanistan, according the Western diplomats here. Soviet troops as well as soldiers of the Moscow-backed regime launched a number of big ground operations in seven provinces in recent weeks.

The provinces include Herat and Kandahar in the west and south, Kabul and the provinces to the north of it, Parvan and Laghman as well as Baghlan and Samangan north of the Hindu Kush.

The heaviest reported activity has been in the southern Shomali Valley only few miles outside Kabul, where the small town of Istalef has taken a battering from Russian tank cannon and artillery, as well as from MiGs and helicopter gunships.

The town is famed for its lapis lazuli pottery, but recently has been the scene of feuding among two factions of the *mujahidin* guerrillas. Because of the feud the Afghan secret police, the Khad, have been able to prepare lists of guerrilla houses in the town and Soviet troops have been calling on houses on the list.

According to a refugee from the town who is quoted by a Western embassy, when the soldiers arrive they pour petrol into each room of the house and then set a torch to it.

Several sources say that four in every 10 houses in the town have been destroyed, and one told Western diplomats that you can smell rotting bodies buried in the rubble from far away.

Other sweeps are being carried out west and south of Herat city, where regime troops have suffered badly recently. The 17th division of the Afghan Army has been deployed on the operation, with apparently only a few troops left behind in the city to guard government buildings.

After recent attacks on convoys south of the city, the partial destruction of a dam to the west, and attacks both inside the town and on the road to the airport, the Government has been trying to relieve the pressure by building a series of fortfifed posts along the road leading to Islam Qala on the border with Iran.

Opposition blamed – then asked to help

Mrs Gandhi's olive branch

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Garlanded with cardamom seeds, and draped in a brilliant yellow sari, Mrs Indira Gandhi gave new inpetus yesterday to the growing campaign to make her appear the only Indian politician capable of leading the country through the next five years.

With her status as an international statesman established by her chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement, reinforced by her descent on the United Nations General Assembly for a mini summit, and shortly to be consecrated by the commonwealth heads of government meeting in Delhi, she is now turning to the domestic political scene.

At the weekend she gave a press conference which lasted for more than two hours during which she dwelt almost exclusively on internal affairs, attacking he opposition, and virtually blaming them for the unruly state of parts of the country.

Yesterday however, she held out the olive branch of peace to them urging them to forët their political differences and to cooperate with the Govërnment

Giving a 40-minute speech at the opening of a two-day party conference in Bombay, she said she was not itching for a confrontation with the opposition. Her party had an absolute faith in democracy, and recognized the relevance of the need for opposition, she said, but she managed to get a few heavy digs at them all the same.

Their present "totally negative" role would only strengthen the communal, casteist and separatist forces.

She made a skilful link between the opposition meeting recently in Srinagar in the Muslim state of Jammu and Kashmir, and some ugly incidents which took place at a one-day Test match there in which pro-Pakistan demonstrators stoned players on the field.

It was the opposition's hate campaign against the central government, she said, that emboldened those elements to surface. She also took a swipe at the Kashmir Chief Minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, who failed to condemn the incident quickly enough for her taste.

But when her loyal audience followed cries of "shame" with a call to bring down his ministry she quickly stayed them saying: "This is not the way to dismiss a government."

She blamed the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, for the continuing stalemate in Punjab State. "It no-longer appears to be a confrontation with the government but a conflict within themselves," She said, explaining that the extremists were preventing the moderates from agreeing to any viable solution.

The meeting of the All-India Congress Committee got off to a ragged and bad-tempered start when several senior dignitaries of the party had a hard time getting into the hall because of stringent security precautions. Mr Y. B. Chavan, a venerable party figure, was kept out and nearly trampled underfoot by a stampede. The Chief Minister of Gujarat and the party chief of Rafasthan were both jostled badly and were heard complaining crossly: "Is this the way to welcome guests?"

12 more die in Sind village clash

From Hasan Akhtar
Islamabad

Twelve people were reported killed in an armed encounter between police and villagers at Lakhkot Jatoi, a village on the national highway in Nawabshah district of Sind which has been at the centre of many anti martial law clashes resulting in scores of deaths since August 14.

The official news agency described the clash as an operation "to eliminate concentrations of Dacoits and lawless elements" and said that only one "armed civilian" died.

The English-speaking newspaper *Muslim* however, gave the figure as 12, and said several others were injured. It said three frontier policemen who were seriously hurt were taken to hospital.

The official report said police used tear gas and fired after the Dacoits refused to surrender and fired on the police, wounding four of their men. About 100 arrests were made and several weapons seized.

Iranian forces launch midnight offensive

Tehran (AFP)–Iranian troops continued to advance deep into Iraqi territory yesterday, killing "hundreds" of troops in an offensive named Dawn Four, according to a joint communiqué by the Iranian armed forces and Revolutionary Guards.

The attack, launched at midnight in the Kurdistan border area, "completely cleaned" Iraqi territory on the Shiler River between Baneh and Marivan, two Iranian towns which have been repeatedly shelled.

Tehran radio said five Iraqi bases had been destroyed and the Louille and Kangarak highlands taken. According to an earlier report, one goal of the offensive is to sever the link between the Iraqis and their Iranian Kurd supporters.

● BAGHDAD: Iraq said yesterday that its First Army Corps had started to repulse a new Iranian offensive in northern Iraq.



Phone and dry: A driver in Lubbock, West Texas, telephoning for help when he was stranded after 6.1 in of rain fell in 24 hours.

Moi frees two more Kenya detainees

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Two more detainees held after a wave of political dissent and an abortive coup attempt here last year were freed yesterday.

The release of a Nairobo University law lecturer, Mr Willy Mutunga, and the head of the university electrical engineering department, Professor Alfred Otieno, was announced on Kenyatta Day – anniversary of the day on which the late President Jomo Kenyatta was arrested and detained by the colonial authorities here in the days of the Mau-Mau rebellion in 1952.

Last week two other detainees – a lawyer, Mr John Khaminwa, and Professor Al-Amin Mazrui – were freed, and the former vice-president of Kenya, Mr Oginga Odinga, was freed from an order restricting him to his house in western Kenya.

Another eight Kenyans are still in detention, but President Moi has given an assurance that their cases are regularly reviewed.

Amnesty International and other organization have been pressing the Kenya Government to free the detainees,

Weathermen blamed for ships trapped in ice

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Moscow yesterday began to count the cost of the Arctic ice emergency, *Pravda* said that the crisis need never have arisen. In an unusually frank analysis, the newspaper blamed incompetent weather forecasting and the antiquated Arctic cargo fleet.

Pravda disclosed that some 90 vessels had been trapped in the ice three weeks ago – more thatn previously thought – but only 50 had become totally immobilized. Of those, 35 are still trapped. One cargo ship has sunk and some are sinking as the ice crushes their hulls. But others been led safety by icebreakers.

Scientists have been flown to the rescue operation headquarters at Pevek, on the Sea of Chukotsk, from the Arctic Research Centre in Leningrad to help icebreakers to spot potential cracks in the ice.

Pravda said that the sudden fall in temperature which had caused the crisis had not been predicted by meteorlogists, who had assured Merchant Marine officials that the north-east Siberian coast would remain ice-free in early October.

Brazilian wages decree imposed

By Our Foreign Staff

President João Figueiredo of Brazil has issued a new wages decree after Congress threw out a previous one to limit pay rises.

Just before the Congress voted he invoked emergency powers in the capital to curb protest.

The vote went 260-3 against the Bill, which would have limited all rises to 80 per cent of the official cost-of-living index.

Scores of people in a country where inflation is running at anything between 120 and 200 per cent, had been camping out in protest for days.

The Bill was a crucial part of a programme agreed with the International Monetary Fund to help to rescue Brazil from its £60bn foreign debt on which it owes about £1.3bn alone in overdue interest payments.

The President, faced with Congress's refusal to ratify the Bill, immediately issued his new decree which goes some way to meet opposition demands from rebels within the government party (the PDS Social Democrats Party) and the opposition PMDB Brazilian Democratics Party and the other small parties.

The new decree evidently will allow low wage earners earning less than about £70 a month rises keeping pace with the cost of living index. The higher paid, however, will get rises below the index rate.

The Government, which is to try to negotiate the new decree through Congress, hopes that it will meet the approval of the IMF.

The state of emergency in the capital prohibits public meetings, allows detentions and raids on people's homes without a warrant and restrictions on unions and professional associations.

The measures enforceable by the local military command for 60 days expressly do not include censorship but they are clearly designed to put pressure on Congress to think carefully before rejecting the latest decree on wage rises.

The measures needed, according to the Government, to isolate Congress from "agitators" came as no surprise and many senators and deputies had been expecting worse.

Money target

The key parts of the IMF-agreed programme are:

- **Bringing down inflation to a monthly rate of 2.5 per cent by the last quarter of 1984**
- **Cuts in government spending to reduce the public sector deficit as a proportion of output from 6 per cent in real terms in 1982 to 2.7 per cent this year and a small surplus next year**
- **Further measures to improve the balance of payments through import cuts and higher exports. Brazil is expected to increase its trade surplus by 50 per cent to £6bn in 1984 and reduce its current account deficit to £4bn.**

Colombo judges overturn ruling on loyalty oath

From Donovan Moldrich
Colombo

A nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court yesterday held by seven to two that they and the judges of the Court of Appeal had at no stage ceased to hold office. The Attorney General had ruled on September 8 that the judges had given up office by failing to take an oath disavowing separatism before the President of Sri Lanka, who had appointed them.

The judges had taken their oaths before each other. As a result of the Attorney General's ruling, the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal were closed for a week and armed guards were posted at the judges' chambers. The judges were able to resume their duties only after they took the oath before President Jayewardene who then announced in a press statement that the judges had been "reappointed".

When court hearings were disrupted the Chief Justice, Mr Neville Samarakoon, and four other Supreme Court judges were hearing an appeal by the publishers of the *Saturday Review* against its closure by the Government. When hearings were resumed Mr S. Nadesan, QC, appearing for the *Saturday Review* argued that the judges were in order in taking their oaths before each other.

مكذا من الاصل

Reagan pledges to stay course on Middle East and Euromissiles

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan, exuding confidence and looking increasingly like a man bent on seeking reelection, has pledged that the US will maintain a firm course in the Middle East and Central America, ensure the free flow of oil from the Gulf and deploy intermediate-range nuclear weapons in western Europe on schedule.

Addressing the twentieth press conference of his Administration on Wednesday night the President vowed that American marines would remain in Beirut despite renewed attacks against them and accused Syria, "aided and abetted by 7,000 Soviet advesers and technicians", of trying to destroy the chances of stability in Lebanon.

He said the Syrians were contributing "disorder and trouble" in the region by deliverately "dragging their feet" because they believed in a Greater Syria that would include much of Jordan and Lebanon. "Now, if they're doing it with the idea of wearing me down they are going to be disappointed", he added.

Most of the questions during the 35-minute press conference dealt with foreign affairs, the majority with the Middle East, reflecting growing public concern about the casualty toll among the 1,600-strong American contingent in the Multinational force. Six US marines have been killed in recent weeks.

"As long as there's a possibility of making the overall peace plan work, we're going to stay there", the President declared.

On domestic issues he claimed that the first 1,000 days of his Adminstration had brought about "great strides" in the economy and that a strong recovery was sending Americans back to work.

This is expected to be the central theme of his reelection campaign next year. But the President gave no clues about whether he would definitely seek a second term except to say that he would make up his mind before his seventythird birthday next February.

H· also reluctantly promised to sign the Martin Luther King Holiday Bill approved by the Senate on Wednesday, but caused some surprise when he carefully avoided denying charges that the late civil rights leader had been a communist sympathizer.

President Reagan's pledge to keep US Marines in Beirut came hours after a fresh amphibious unit of 1,800 left for the Mediterranean to replace those now on duty.

Rejecting suggestions that the Marines should be allowed to deploy beyond their present positions around Beirut airport he nevertheless reassured questioners that they would always defend themselves and he would provide that defence.

President Reagan, who has been conducting a top level review of Middle Eastern policy this week, emphasized that his September 1982 peace initiative remains in place but that progress hinges on resolving the deadlock in Lebanon.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq conflict he said the West would not allow Iran to carry out its threat to close the Gulf to oil traffic if Iraq uses recently-acquired French aircraft. However he would not say what acion the US might take if the Iranians closed the Strait of Hormuz.

On Central America, the President broadly defended the right of the US Administration to use covert action "when it believes its interests are best served".

His remarks, which coincided with a similar statement by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, came on the eve of a Congressional debate on whether to cut off covert US aid to Nicaraguan.

● LONDON: Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, called on Israel and the Arab states to reconsider President Reagan's Middle East peace proposals yesterday (Henry Stanhope writes).

Britain still strongly supported it as the best basis for discussion, he told the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association in London.

Mr Luce who is visiting Israel, Jordan and Egypt early next month, also reaffirmed British belief in the European Venice Declaration and its two main principle – Israel's right to exist and the Palestinian right to self-determination.

Lebanese leaders ready to talk peace in Geneva

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

As Lebanese troops in the hills above Beirut came under renewed artillery fire yesterday, all but one of the political leaders invited to discuss the future of their country were reported to have agreed that the first session of a national reconciliation conference should be held in Geneva.

Only old Mr Pierre Gemayel, leader of the rightwing Christian Phalange Party, had failed by yesterday evening to consent to the latest venue, though it will almost certainly be forthcoming since he is the President's father.

Government officials were saying privately that the talks would probably be held in the United Nations Centre at Geneva, a location far enough removed from Beirut in geography and political temperature for the participants to create the framework of a new Lebanese constitution.

Mr Walid Jumblatt was the first to suggest Geneva as the venue; the Swiss city contains a great number of fine restaurants, but the other seven participants are at a loss to think of any other reason why the Druze leader should favour the place.

Mr Richard Fairbanks, President Reagan's new acting Middle East envoy, and Mr Rafik Hariri, the Lebanese millionaire who has been negotiating between the Beirut Government and the Syrians, had been intending to travel to Jiddah yesterday to listen to Saudi Aarabian arguments that the conference should be held there. But President Gemayel has decided Geneva is suitable.

The question now facing the participants is how long they will delay before meeting; every day brings more deaths in the crumbling ceasefire.

At least eight people, six of them civilians, died around the capital on Wednesday, while four US Marines were wounded when a car bomb exploded next to a Marine convoy near the Kuwaiti Embassy.

DAMASCUS: President Assad of Syria has ruled out any compromise with the United States over Lebanon and said "the battle is continuing". (Reuter reports).

Israeli run on shares predicted

From Christopher Walker Tel Aviv

The Israeli Government is launching a nationwide publicity campaign to try to avert a stock maket crash when Tel Aviv exchange opens again next Monday for ordinary trading.

Addressing an emergency meeting of Israeli newspaper editors, Mr David Levy, the Deputy Prime Minister, has given a grim warning that a collapse of the Stock Exchange and of the banking system would endanger the very future of the state.

The Treasury and the main commercial banks had devised an elaborate scheme designed to prevent the 600,000 bank shareholders rushing to sell them when the market reopens.

After being closed for two weeks, the Tel Aviv exchange – often referred to as "the national casino" because of its popularity as a potential hedge against 130 per cent inflation – opened yesterday for trading in bonds only.

President Samora Machel of Mozambique, inspecting a guard of honour of the Scots Guards in Whitehall yesterday. On his first, three-day visit to Britain, he had talks with Mrs Thatcher and then lunched with her. Last night he addressed members of the British business community before a reception hosted by the British Overseas Trade Board and a Government dinner at Lancaster House.



Enigma of Caribbean bloodbath

Power struggle in Grenada

From Jeremy Taylor Port of Spain

A shocked Caribbean was puzzling yesterday over how the political crisis in Grenada could have escalated so quickly and violently.

What had been carefully represented by the ruling New Jewel Movement as a conflict between the party and the Prime Minister, Mr Maurice Bishop, over party discipline and personal power exploded suddenly into a bloodbath, with far-reaching implications for Grenada and Caribbean politics.

The differences between Mr Bishop and his deputy, Mr Bernard Coard, were about tactics and timing rather than basic ideology. The issue that led to the confrontation may have been constitutional reform and when and how to organize some form of elections.

Mr Bishop had been under strong pressure at two recent Caribbean Community summit meetings to proceed quickly to a new constitution and open the way for elections.

Earlier this year, on a trip to the US seen as a gesture of conciliation in the face of American hostility, Mr Bishop announced a constitutional commission to begin public hearings soon.

He had been trying to give a more positive international image to the revolution and secure economic support for a continued role for the island's private sector.

Mr Coard and his Jamaican-born wife, Phyllis, also a government minister, are known to have disapproved of Mr Bishop's more relaxed approach and are thought to favour zonal and community councils over conventional elections.

A heavily built, bearded, normally cheery figure, Mr Coard is a Marxist-Leninist and the ruling party's chief ideologue. Described by some observers as a man obsessed with power, he has kept out of sight throughout the week-long crisis, though the tone and wording of official announcements from the armed forces suggest political direction and possibly Mr Coard's pen.

While many who know him saw nothing to suggest he would conceive of eliminating Mr Bishop and his supporters in the Government so ruthlessly, others argue that the freeing of Mr Bishop by a loyal crowd was exploited to implement a long-standing ambition to remove him from the scene and accelerate the revolution.

Official versions of the conflict, it is argued, were having no effect on Grenadians. Demonstrations in support of Mr Bishop were continuing, ministers loyal to the Prime Minister were in open revolt, and the Foreign Minister, Mr Unison Whiteman, had said that Mr Coard was not interested in dialogue and the people must free their leader.

Mr Bishop may have played straight into his enemies' hands by leading the crowd that freed him into St George's, apparently believing everything would fall before him.

Mr Coard, aged 39 is a political science and economics graduate of Brandeis University in the United States, and took a Master's degree in comparative political economy from Sussex University, after which he taught in Britain and lectured at the University of the West Indies. When he returned to Grenada, he ran the Organization for Revolutionary Education and Liberation, which taught Marxism-Lenism.

According to some reports, Mrs Coard and their two children left Grenada earlier this week and Mr Coard had already detained several army officers loyal to the Prime Minister when Mr Bishop returned from a trip to Hungary and Czechoslovakia just before the crisis.

Grenada: The facts

Population: 115,000, mostly of African descent. Language is English, religion Roman Catholic with Protestant minority.
Area: 133 sq miles.
Capital: St George's, founded in 1705 by French settlers.
Economy: Dependent on tourism, agriculture. Main exports are cocoa, nutmeg, bananas. GNP (1980), $80m (£53m), per capita income $870 (£580). Unemployment (1983), 14 per cent.
Armed forces: A 1,000-strong People's Revolutionary Army.

How US misread island signals

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration yesterday expressed its "grave concern" about the bloody coup on Grenada. And well it might as the political situation on the tiny Caribbean island has turned out in exactly the opposite way that Washington had hoped.

Washington, concerned by the links which Mr Maurice Bishop, the mudered Prime Minister, had developed with Cuba and the Soviet Union, had sought to bring the island state to heel by cutting off econonmic aid and reducing diplomatic ties to a minimum.

America saw the tilt to the left which had taken place since Mr Bishop seized power in 1979 as part of a broader pattern of encroachment in the Caribbean and Central American region.

Grenada was frequently mentioned by American officials in the same breath as Nicaragua as counties which posed a threat to the stability of the region

In a speech earlier this year President Reagan warned that "Grenada bears the Soviet and Cuban trademark, which means it will attempt to spread the virus among its neighbours."

The main object of American concern was the new airport, with its 10,000 ft runway, which is being built on the island. Mr Bishop said the airport was needed to accommodate jumbo jets carrying tourists from America and Europe. Tourism provides the island with its main source of foreign exchange.

The Americans, however, feared the airport could be use by the Soviet and Cuban Air Forces. Mr Reagan showed aerial photographs of the airfield during a televised address he made to justify his hardline policy towards central America and the Caribbean.

Because Washington was so convinced that Grenada had fallen completely under the influence of Cuba and the Soviet Union, it failed to recognize Mr Bishop's vain attempts earlier this year to improve relations and to tilt his country in a more pro-Western and less socialist direction.

He twice wrote to Mr Reagan seeking a meeting but his letters went unanswered. Eventually he visited Washington in June but had to wait more than a week before anyone in the Administration would see him.

He finally managed to see Mr William Clark, then the National Security Adviser, and Mr Kenneth Dan, the Deputy Secretary of State. However, the talks did not change American attitudes.

Caribbean outraged

Bridgetown, Barbados (Reuter) – Caribbean Governments and politicians reacted with shock and outrage to Grenadas' army takeover.

The Prime Ministers of Barbados, Mr Tom Adams, described the island's new rulers as disgusting murderers and barbarians, and said he would not be sitting down with them in meetings of Caricom, the Caribbean common market.

Jamaica's Prime Minister, Mr Edward Seaga, also said he would not take part in any Caricom meetings with Grenada's new rulers, whom he called murderers.

Antigua and Barbuda, as chairman of Caricom's standing foreign ministers committee, has called for and urgent meeting of the grouping.

The Jamaican Socialist opposition leader, Mr Michael Manley, a personal friend of President Castro, as was the murdered Grenadan Prime Minister, Mr Maurice Bishop, describing his killing as a squalid betrayal of the hopes of the ordinary people in the region.

In London, the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr Shridath Ramphal issued a statement saying: "I share the sense of horror widespread throughout the Commonwealth...I feel sure that Commonwealth Caribbean Governments...will wish to use every influence...to ensure that the will and the interests of the people of Grenada are respedted...

Europe prunes budget by £283m

From Ian Murray Brussels

Tough, "good management" measures are now being followed by the European Commission to save as much as £283m from this year's EEC budget. In tandem with a series of decisions now likely to be taken by the European Parliament, they increase the pressure on governments to agree to important reforms to Community financing by the end of the year.

There was no question when the Commission met late into Wednesday evening to decide what to do about the cash flow crisis that every one of the 14 members was acutely aware of the urgent need to do something to make sure the Community budget would last out the year. In the end it was decided to exploit the crisis by making provision to save twice as much as might be needed.

The main measure approved was, as expected, the continuation of the freeze on the payment of some premiums, storage and export refunds, which had first been brought in on Tuesday of last week. This can be lifted if finances improve radically, but by the end of the year it could mean savings of as much as £121m from this year's budget. In all events the money would still have to be paid to traders, but only out of next year's budget.

In addition to this there is likely to be the saving of £50m, more than 80 per cent of which would go to Britain, of the ewe premium, which is normally paid in early December. This is now likely to be paid in January, but the Commission intends to propose ending the present system of advance payment in favour of the cheaper method and asking for it to be paid at the end of the season in arrears.

All the other measures being introduced can be extended indefinitely and all represent real savings which the Community can make. The largest part of these is the £82m being pruned by dint of a different method of accouning losses on sales intervention – a measure which has been under study for some months

There could also be permanent savings made by the decision to reduce the interest paid to member states to finance intervention stocks from 9 per cent to 8 per cent. This will save £2.5m this year and could save as much as £22m in a full year.

The other idea being introduced will reduce the amount of skimmed milk powder being sold off to be mixed into pig and poultry feed. This is a very expensive method of eating up the dried milk powder mountain, costing 70 per cent of the intervention price.

Reducing the amount sold for feed will save some £27.5m this year, although it is unlikely that it will be extended for too long as it will mean that the surplus of powder will keep on growing.

This saving for 1983 of £283m is well in excess of the £156m shortfall in expenditure which is being forecast. But it is hoped that this stringency will force member states to realize they can no longer go on expecting the common agricultural policy to go on being paid out in full as in the past.

DeLorean fails truth test

Los Angeles – A few days before standing trial on charges of plotting to smuggle 220lb of cocaine into the United States, John DeLorean, the car manufacturer, has failed a FBI lie-detector test, demonstrating that he was a "knowing and willing participant" in the drug deal, the Government announced.

The FBI test's result is in complete contrast to an earlier lie-detector test which, Mr DeLorean's defence team says, cleared him of the charges (Ivor Davis writes).

The battle over which lie-detector test to accept moves today to the courtroom of Judge Robert Takasugi, who is due to preside over the trial on November 1. He will rule whether either of the test results can be admitted as evidence.

The latest test took place in FBI headquarters on Tuesday and was done by Mr Paul Minor, the FBI's chief polygraph examiner. But hours after the results of the test were made public, Mr DeLorean's chief defence lawyer, Mr Howard Weitzmen cried foul.

Mr Minor' opinion said Mr DeLorean was "decptive" in his response to four questions involving his relationship with Mr James Timothy Hoffman, identified as the Government's informer in events leading up to Mr DeLorean's arrest on the drug charges exactly a year ago this week.

Bonn wary of Soviet blackmail

From Michael Binyon Bonn

Bonn yesterday gave a warning that the Soviet Union's relentless build-up of its military forces could subject the West to political blackmail unless it took urgent steps now to restore the military balance.

These included the deployment on schedule, if necessary, of new Nato missiles to counter the Soviet monopoly in medium-range nuclear weapons. Nato had also to improve its conventional forces, which at present were only "just sufficient" for effective forward defence.

The warning was included in a 265-page White Paper outlining long-term defence policy. It minced no words in detailing the threat from the Soviet Union, its expansionist philosophy and present military superiority which increasingly threatened the West's political and economic interests throughout the world.

The paper's publication, two days before the huge rallies planned by opponents of Nato missile deployment, is a clear attempt by the Government to sway the public argument, and in the words of Herr Manfred Wörner, the Defence Minister, to make up for public ignorance and the one-sided and misleading views of security policies now being spread throughout Germany.

Bonn's "peace policy" did not threaten anyone and was intended solely to guarantee peace in freedom and independence, he said. It included readiness for dialogue and cooperation with the East, and arms control agreements aiming at the lowest possible level of armaments.

By contrast, the Russians saw military power as a "tool for achieving the objectives of their power policy regardless of what other countries may want".

Herr Wörner stated that there was no actual danger of war in Europe at present. The real hazard lay in Soviet readiness to use military force, directly or indirectly, as a means of policy.

Herr Wörner told a press conference that credible deterrence was still the only way of ensuring freedom for the foreseeable future. He was not eager for the new Nato missiles, but there was no returning to the days of nuclear innocence.

Nato was still able to stop an attack by the Warsaw Pact, but only just, the White Paper said. Any further reduction in its forces would undermine this capability.

The White Paper said, that peace in freedom had its price: Germany was increasing its defence budget next year by 3.2 per cent to a total of DM58,950m (£14,740m)

● GENEVA: The Soviet chief delegate at US-Soviet talks on limiting nuclear missile forces in Europe, Mr Yuli Kvitsinsky said yesterday that the negotiations had no prospect for success though they would continue for the time being (Reuter reports). "We will keep talking as long as it is necessary, as long as there are prospects", he said.



Brussels protest: Frau Katharina Focke (centre right) a former West German Cabinet Minister protesting with other MEPs over the deployment of Nato missiles.

Fear of fishing chaos as Dutch torpedo deal

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

"This could mean anarchy in Community waters" – that was the gloomy verdict in Luxembourg early yesterday, the Belgian Minister for Fisheries, after another 14 hours of talks on the herring share-out in the North Sea ended in deadlock.

Precisely at midnight Mr Giorgios Contogeorgis, the Fisheries Commissioner, had admitted there was not point in going on with the argument. The digital clock in the room showed "00:00". "Look at that", said one of the delegates, "the clock shows exactly what we have achieved".

Mr Michael Jopling, the British minister, contrived to remain optimistic despite the fact there have now been six fruitless attempts to reach agreement on th problem, which is crucial to the completion of the common fisheries policy. "There was no shortage of will to reach agreement", he said. "We were closer than ever before".

But the fact remains that The Netherlands – not normally one of the more militant member states – refused categorically to accept a herring deal which would have ended the destructive quarrelling over the 10-month common fisheries polily.

As a result, the search for agreement on quotas of all species for this year – already long overdue – has become an academic exercise. If things continue at this speed, the industry could find itself in 1984 still using the 1982 figures, with serious long-term effects on conservation of stocks.

The next meeting on the problem is not likely until mid-December, and there is already strong pressure from the British industry for that meeting to make a start on agreeing next year's figures, ignoring 1983 – the year in which the CFP was signed.

The long uncertainty has led to the Belgian fears of anarchy on the high seas, with fishermen finding it very difficult to take seriously any form of control based on quotas demonstrably out of date.

Scientific evidence indicates that the herring stock is growing very quickly indeed, after the six-year ban on conservation grounds. Fishermen report they are catching more than at any time since the bonanza years of the early 1960s.

Andropov's Sofia visit in doubt

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Speculation about the health of President Yuri Andropov increased yesterday as doubts grew about his impending visit to Bulgaria.

Soviet officials had earlier let it be known that Mr Andropov would visit Sofia in the "second half of October". Officials hinted that he would use the visit – planned for next Tuesday – to make an important speech on East-West issues. Diplomats said that he might launch Geneva.

Moscow has said that it might walk out of the Geneva talks on medium range missiles. Warsaw Pact foreign ministers meeting in Sofia last week said that Russia would continue the talks provided Nato did not deploy new American missiles in Europe in December.

Observers feel that Mr Andropov will have to make a strong public statement for the sake of his political credibility. Yesterday, however, East European sources said that the Sofia visit was no longer certain. A Foreign Ministry official, ased about the reports, said that the Bulgarian visit was "news to me". East European sources said that a proposed visit to Moscow by General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, was also in question.

As no firm announcements about either visit have been made in the Soviet press, announcements of their cancellation are not likely.

The reports have none-the-less raised eyebrows in Moscow and have revived question marks over Mr Andropov's health. He has not been seen in public since August, when he received US Democratic senators. He made no statement about the Korean airliner crisis until the end of September, when he referred to it in the course of a response to President Reagan's latest arms control proposals. The response, which was bitter in tone, was read on television by an announcer, and no pictures of Mr Andropov appeared.

In a curious slip reminiscent of President Brezhnev's final days a year ago, the announcer inserted a passage on Warsaw pact manoeuvers which bore no relation to the rest of Mr Andropov's statement as published in the press. Broadcasting authorities are reported to have been reprimanded.

Diplomats said that reports of Mr Andropov's recurring illness and doubts about his Bulgarian visit might be used by Politburo opponents to underline his two-month disappearance from public view.

Russians not amused by Callaghan quip

From Our Own Correspondent Moscow

Mr James Callaghan has told the Russians that they cost him the 1979 election by coining the epithet "Iron Lady" for Mrs Thatcher.

Mr Callaghan, who is on a week-long visit here, made the remark during talks with Mr Boris Ponomaryov, a candidate Politburo member.

Mr Callaghan said that the term "Iron Lady", although meant to be uncomplimentary, had been turned to political advantage by Mrs Thatcher. Mr Callaghan remarked jocularly that if the Kremlin had not intervened in 1979 he might have continued as Prime Minister. Mr Ponomaryov, who is not known for his gift of spontaneous repartee, did not respond.

Right jubilant as union poll puts French left into minority

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French social security fund elections, in which the Communist-led CGT and the Socialist CFDT lost ground spectacularly to the independent and right-wing unions, was hailed as "a crushing defeat for the left" in the right-wing newspaper *Le Figaro*.

The CGT won only 28 per cent of Wednesday's vote, compared with 37 per cent in the "Ombudsmen" elections last year, while the CFDT's proportion dropped from 24 per cent to 18 per cent, putting it in third place behind the moderate Force Ouvrière (25 per cent of the vote, compared to last year's 18 per cent).

For the first time in any union election, the three "reformist" unions, given the strong backing of the right-wing opposition parties and the employers, now hold a majority with 53 per cent of the vote. There is no doubt the electorate heeded opposition calls to make this a political vote against the government.

The CGT, once the most powerful union by far, continued its decline and finds itself only three points ahead of the Force Ouvrière. With typical Communist panache, however, M Henri Krasucki, the CGT's general secretary, hailed the result achieved by his union as "altogether remarkable...given the composition of the electorate", pointing out that they confirmed the CGT's position as the leading French trade union.

It is true that the 30 million people eligible to vote in the social security fund election included groups like the immigrant workers, students, the unemployed, and the retired, who were not eligible to vote in the "Ombudsmen" elections, which involved only 14 million workers in the private sector. The results are therefore not directly comparable, but the overall trend is indisputable.

It was the first time since 1962 that elections had been held for union representatives to sit on the management boards of the social security and health insurance funds, which together have an annual outlay of 900 billion francs (£75 billion).

M Edmond Maire, general secretary of the Socialist CFDT, blamed his union's loss of support on the "politicization" of difficulties involved in trying to get an unpopular "language of truth" and economic realism across to the general public.

M Maire has declared for example, that workers must be ready to accept a drop in real wages if there is to be a reduction in the working week to 35 hours, essential for creating more jobs. Despite being called a "Marxist revolutionary" by opposition leaders, M Maire is more properly identified as on the centre-right of the Socialist Party, as represented by M Michael Rocard, the Agriculture Minister.

China eases up on its anti-British barrage

From David Bonavia, Hongkong

The fifth round of Anglo-Chinese talks on the future of Hongkong ended here yesterday and were described by a British Embassy spokesman as "useful and constructive".

The British delegation, headed by Sir Percy Cradock, the Ambassador to Peking, is under strict orders from the Prime Minister to disclose nothing of the contents. Nor did the Chinese press repeat the barrage of anti-British propaganda with which it accompanied the last round.

The sixth round is to be held on November 14 and 15. Sir Edward Youde, Governor of Hongkong, is a regular participant.

Last month the Chinese accused Britain of wanting to perpetuate its rule in Hongkong beyond the expiry of the New Territories lease in 1997.

● **Store opened:** In another step forward along the capitalist road, China will open a fifth department store in Hongkong which will for the first time sell overseas goods in addition to Chinese-made items (Richard Hughes writes).

Belize, part 2: Poverty spread equally

Balancing on the US-Cuba tightrope

In this second of two articles on Belize, John Carlin interviews the Prime Minister.

The door of the office of Mr George Price, the Prime Minister of Belize, is always open. "That way a draught can run through," he explains. "We have no air conditioning or electric fans here."

The temperature in Belmopan, the 4,000-population capital of Belize, is never too far from the 100°F mark. But Mr Price, at 64 unmarried, in his youth a Jesuit seminarian, refuses to allow himself the frills many Latin American leaders seem to view as their right.

The floor in his office is covered with linoleum; the furniture is metallic; the noise of his secretary's typewriter, deafening.

With an annual budget of US$100m (about £65m), an almost total dependence on the fluctuating world price of sugar (Belize's main export) to make foreign exchange, and a need to import anything remotely resembling manufactured goods, Belize is a poor country even by Central American standards.

"We have no high-rise steel or glass buildings here," says Mr Price, "we believe in spreading the wealth around."

His southern neighbour, Guatemala, which has the same claim to Belize as Argentina to the Falklands, has a visibly more powerful economy than this British colony of 150,000 people. High-rise buildings abound in Guatemala City and government affairs are conducted with customary Latin American pomp.

But while the literacy rate in Belize is 92 per cent – a figure matched only by Argentina in Latin America – in Guatemala it is 37 per cent. While the average per capita income in the Belizean countryside is US$1,000, in Guatemala 70 per cent of the population, mostly rural Indians, receive an annual income of only $42.

Unlike Guatemala, there is not even a hint of armed opposition in Belize because, to paraphrase Mr Price, it is poverty, and not wealth, which is spread around equally. Consequently there is no visible internal target on which to focus social resentment.

On the second anniversary of independence from British rule, celebrated on September 21, happy crowds paraded and danced around the streets of Belize City, the country's Caribbean port.

There were reggae bands everywhere but no song drew more hip-swinging hand-clapping enthusiasm among the blacks, Asians, hispanics and occasional whites in the racially diverse city, than the local favourite, *Tell them Guatemalans to leave Belize alone.*

Mr Price, very conscious of his country's atypical Central American tranquility, wrote a letter to *The Times* last month (published September 9) in which he thanked the British Government and people for the presence of the 1,800 British troops who, as he put it, "are a factor of security and stability in a turbulent region."

Clinging to his country's internal stability is the principal target of Mr Price's foreign policy. Under his leadership (he is also head of the People's United Party) Belize has become a member of the Non-Aligned Group. Yet Mr Price has offset any offence this might cause Washington by distancing himself from Cuba.

While the American Embassy in Belize is growing dramatically in size, there are no diplomatic ties with Cuba. Asked whether he wished for a closer relationship with the Castro Government, Mr Price typically biblical in his allusions, replied: "Given the reality of history and geography . . . we know that at this stage in the world's development we can't be all things to all men".

At a time of worldwide recession, Mr Price is only too well aware of the importance to his small country of financial aid from the Americans. For that reason he has rejected Cuban aid, and its accompanying ideological strings.

Notwithstanding his shrewd foreign policy, and the British military presence, Mr Price believes that his country's best safeguard against the turbulence so close by is provided by government policies founded on social justice.

With British help Belize has been able to place budgetary emphasis on education at the expense of defence. An inscription, in bold red letters, on the side of a white Ministry of Education van in Belize City expresses this remarkable Central American anomaly with eloquence, at the same time drawing attention, with unconscious irony, to Britain's reluctant military commitment:

"A nation's might – not on how well its army can fight, but on how well it people can write."

[concluded]



Mr Price receives constitutional instruments from Prince Michael of Kent on Independence Day

Jobs issue dominates Swiss election

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Unemployment and the environment are the two main issues as 3.8 million Swiss go to the polls this weekend.

As in Germany, many forest trees are dying from acid rain, the cumulative effect of years of air pollution. Unemployment, compared with other nations, seems insignificant – just under one per cent, or 24,478 people.

The voters will elect 200 members to the National Council and 46 to the Council of States, the upper house – two for each canton.

There are about 1,800 candidates, representing 37 political groups. Among them are 440 women, including Dr Lilian Uchtenhagen, the Social Democrat member in the outgoing Parliament who was the first woman nominated by a coalition party for a seat in the Cabinet, the seven-member Federal Council.

Two portfolios have been vacant since the resignation of M Georges-André Chevallaz, the Defence Minister, and the death of Herr Willi Ritschard, the Finance Minister.

The coalition parties are the Social Democrats, Radical Democrats, Christian Democrats and Swiss People's Party.

Because of unemployment, particular attention is being paid to the performance of the three small right-wing parties – National Action, Republican Movement and *Vigilantes* (Geneva only)

Danish oil rig breaks loose

From Christopher Follet, Copenhagen

One seaman died and 39 oilmen were rescued by helicopter and flown uninjured to Gothenburg, Sweden, when a Danish oil rig broke loose from two towboats in stormy weather in the Kattagat.

The rig, the Maersk Explorer, owned by A.P. Moller, the Danish industrial and oil prospecting concern, was on tow from the Kattegat.

Privy Council — Law Report October 21 1983 — Divisional Court

Judge not entitled to accuse airline

Mahon v Air New Zealand Ltd and Others

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Scarman, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Templeman

[Judgment delivered October 20]

A New Zealand judge conducting a commission of inquiry failed to adhere to the two rules of natural justice that a finding had to be based on material which tended logically to reveal the facts to be determined and that any person represented at the inquiry who would be adversely affected by a finding should be made aware of the risk of that finding being made. Consequently it had not been open to the judge to find that certain witnesses giving evidence before him had been guilty of a planned deception and conspiracy to commit perjury.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council dismissed an appeal by Peter Thomas Mahon against an order of the Court of Appeal of New Zealand (Mr Justice Woodhouse, President, Mr Justice Cooke, Mr Justice Richardson, Mr Justice McMullin and Mr Justice Somers) made on December 22, 1981 quashing an order made the appellant then a judge of the High Court of New Zealand, in his capacity as a royal commissioner, that the first respondent, Air New Zealand Ltd (ANZ), should pay $150,000 by way of contribution to the cost of the Royal Commission's inquiry into the crash on Mount Erebus, Antarctica, of a DC 10 airliner operated by ANZ. By his appeal to the Judicial Committee the appellant sought that the costs order made by him against ANZ should be restored.

The second and third respondents, Mr M. R. Davis (chief executive of ANZ at the time of the crash) and Captain I. H. Gemmell (technical flight manager) were both employees of ANZ. The fourth respondent, the Attorney-General for New Zealand was joined in the proceedings in the Court of Appeal to represent the public interest.

Sir Patrick Neill, QC, Mr David Baragwanath, QC (of the New Zealand Bar), Mr Nicolas Bratza and Mr Robert Chambers (of the New Zealand Bar) for the appellant; Mr Robert Alexander, QC and Mr Lloyd Brown, QC and Mr R. J. McGrane (both of the New Zealand Bar) for Air New Zealand; Mr D. A. R. Williams and Mr L. L. Stevens (both of the New Zealand Bar) for the second and third respondents; Mr R. P. Smellie, QC (of the New Zealand Bar), Mr David Widdicombe, QC and Mr Noel Anderson (of the New Zealand Bar) for the Attorney-General for New Zealand.

LORD DIPLOCK said that on November 28, 1979 in broad daylight a DC10 aircraft operated by Air New Zealand and engaged on a sightseeing trip of the Antarctic flew at a height of 1,500ft straight into the lower snow-clad slopes of Mount Erebus, a 12,000ft volcano. The 237 passengers and 20 crew had been killed.

The Governor General had appointed a Royal Commission to inquire into the cause and circumstances of the crash and had appointed the appellant (the judge) as sole commissioner.

The judge found that the dominant cause of the disaster was the act of ANZ of changing the aircraft's computer track without telling the aircrew. He said in his report that the airline officials who had programmed the aircraft to fly straight at Mount Erebus and failed to tell the aircrew had made a mistake and that that mistake was attributable to the airline's incompetent administrative procedures. He exonerated the aircrew.

Those findings had been within the Royal Commission's terms of reference, there had been ample supporting evidence and they were not challenged in the proceedings before the Court of Appeal or before the Board.

The procedure followed at the hearings which had been to a large extent responsible for the unfortunate sequelae had been dictated by the pressure of the time limits imposed on the Royal Commission. With hindsight it was clear that it had coloured the judge's view of what he described as the "stance" of ANZ. It was what he had said about that stance which had made his report vulnerable to judicial review.

The use of Royal Commissions in New Zealand to conduct inquiries into important public matters was much more common than in the United Kingdom. Whatever was written about anyone to his detriment in a commission report was the subject of absolute privilege under the law of defamation devoid though the allegation might be of any factual foundation. So he who had been traduced was without remedy by way of civil action.

In the present case the judge had made an order that ANZ should pay to the Department of Justice NZ$150,000 by way of contribution to the public cost of the inquiry. That order had been made in the exercise of a statutory power of decision and to that extent, if to no other, the Royal Commission report was subject to review.

The judge's reason for making the costs order appeared in paragraph 377 of the report. He had said:

"No judicial officer ever wishes to be compelled to say that he has listened to evidence which is false. He always prefers to say, as I hope the hundreds of judgments which I have written will illustrate, that he cannot accept the relevant explanation, or that he prefers a contrary version set out in the evidence.

"But in this case, the palpably false sections of evidence which I heard could not have been the result of mistake, or faulty recollection. They originated, I am compelled to say, in a pre-determined plan of deception. They were very clearly part of an attempt to conceal a series of disastrous administrative blunders and so, in regard to the particular items of evidence to which I have referred, I am forced reluctantly to say that I had to listen to an orchestrated litany of lies."

The parties to the plan of deception and conspiracy to commit perjury there referred to were readily identifiable in the body of the report. They were senior officers employed in the flight operations department of ANZ. The report also identified as conspirators all four members of the navigation section of flight operations.

ANZ had challeged paragraph 377 and some earlier paragraphs, as well as the order for costs, by an application for judicial review. The Board would not find it necessary to decide whether in making his finding in paragraph 377 the judge acted in excess of his jurisdiction or whether the Court of Appeal had jurisdiction to set it aside.

The appeal could be disposed of on the ground that in arriving at the finding set out in paragraph 377 the judge failed by inadvertence to observe the applicable rules of natural justice.

The relevant rules of natural justice, referred to in *R v Deputy Industrial Injuries Commissioner, Ex parte Moore* ([1965] 1 QB 456, 488, 490) which dealt with the exercise of an investigative jurisdiction, were: 1 A person making a finding had to base his decision on evidence that had some probative value; 2 He had to listen fairly to any relevant evidence conflicting with the finding and any rational argument against the finding that a person represented at the inquiry, whose interests might be adversely affected by it, might wish to place before him, or would have so wished had he been made aware of the risks of the findings being made.

Any determination whether the judge's finding of fact in paragraph 377 was flawed for failure to observe those rules necessarily called for some examination of the evidence given at the inquiry of the alleged conspiracy.

On the facts it was not conceivable that individual witnesses falsely disclaimed knowledge of low flying on previous Antarctic flights in a concerted attempt to deceive anyone as to what had happened.

Nor had there been material of any probative value on which to base a finding that there had been a concerted plan of deliberate concealment of all documents which might point to mismanagement by ANZ of the Antarctic flights.

Further, the Court of Appeal and the Board were entitled to reject the judge's findings that there had been a *concerted* concealment of ANZ's adoption of a new southerly waypoint for Antarctic sightseeing flights.

That was mainly on the ground that the judge failed to observe the *rule* that both sides should be heard and that the inferences he drew from the evidence were based on a logical fallacy.

The judge's particular and crucial findings as to destruction of documents and adoption of the new waypoint were open to rejection on judicial review. They constituted a substantial part of the material which was the basis of paragraph 377.

The judge's accusations against the airline in that paragraph were conclusions which he had not been entitled to reach and the costs order which constituted the punishment imposed on ANZ for the conduct there found should be set aside.

His Lordship added that to say of a person who held judicial office, that he had failed to observe a rule of natural justice, might sound to a lay ear as if it were a severe criticism of his conduct which carried with it moral overtones.

But that was far from being the case. It was a criticism which might be, and in the instant case was certainly intended by their Lordships in making it to be, wholly *disassociated from any moral* overtones.

Earlier their Lordships had set *out the two rules of natural justice* that applied to the appeal.

It was easy enough to slip up over *one* or other of them in civil litigation, particularly when one was subject to pressure of time in preparing a judgment after hearing masses of evidence in a long and highly complex suit.

In the case of a judgment in ordinary civil litigation such failure to observe rules of natural justice was simply one possible *ground of* appeal among many others and attracted no particular attention.

All their Lordships could remember highly respected colleagues who, as trial judges, had appeals against judgments they had delivered allowed on that ground; and no one thought any the worse of them for it.

So their Lordships' recommendation that the appeal ought to be dismissed could not have any adverse effect upon the reputation of the judge among those who understood the legal position, and it should not do so with anyone else.

Solicitors: Macfarlanes; Linklaters & Paines; Allen & Overy.

No power to stay before petition

Sandhu v Khan

Before Mr Justice Walton and Mr Justice Nicholls

[Judgment delivered October 19]

There was no jurisdiction to stay bankruptcy proceedings before the presentation of a bankruptcy *petition.*

Mr Justice Walton and Mr Justice Nicholls sitting in the Divisional Court in Bankruptcy in the Chancery Division allowed an appeal from the order of Mr *Registrar* Russell in the Salford County Court on December 7, 1982 who ordered that bankruptcy *proceedings* be stayed pending determination of the debtor's counterclaim against the creditor, and from the order of Mr Registrar Steinberg in the Salford County Court on July 5, 1983 who ordered that Mr Sandhu's application for a removal of the stay of proceedings under the bankruptcy notice 100 of 1982 be denied.

Mr Austin Allison for Mr Sandhu; Mr Edward Bailey for Mr Khan.

MR JUSTICE WALTON said that under section 113 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914 the court might make an order staying proceedings under a bankruptcy petition. That meant proceedings after a bankruptcy had been presented.

There was *no jurisdiction* under that section or any other in the 1914 Act or under the Bankruptcy Rules (SI 1952 No 2113) to stay proceedings before a bankruptcy petition had been presented. Therefore an order made in an attempt to stay proceedings under a bankruptcy notice was made without jurisdiction and should be set aside.

Mr Justice Nicholls delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Adam Burn & Metson; Charnley & Afzal, Manchester.

Horror at delay in O14 appeal

Coastal (Bermuda) Ltd v Esso Petroleum Co Ltd

In dismissing an appeal by the *defendants, Esso Petroleum Co Ltd,* against the judgment of Mr Justice Lloyd on September 22, 1982, who gave *judgment* for the plaintiffs, Coastal (Bermuda) Ltd, under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court in the sum of US$2,450,228, Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice May on October 17, said that each member of the court was surprised, one might say horrified, that any appeal under Order 14 should take so long to come on.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said the court had looked into the matter. The delay was partly due to fresh evidence which had had to be filed, partly to a lack of enthusiasm in pressing the court for an early hearing date and partly to the fact that the court was still evolving an administrative procedure which would help to expedite cases of urgency.

It should be generally known that Order 14 appeals could be heard swiftly provided that attention was drawn to the fact that they were of that nature.

Juries not to be given disputed notes

Regina v Dillon (R. W.)

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Griffiths, Mr Justice Kenneth Jones and Mr Justice Eastham) reiterated on October 13 that members of a jury were not allowed to be given copies of contemporaneous notes of police interviews, neither signed nor adopted by the defendant, purely for the purpose of jogging their memories.

The court allowed the appeal of Robert William Dillon against his conviction for burglary on October 11, 1982, at Middlesex Crown Court (Judge Hughes and a jury).

MR JUSTICE EASTHAM, giving the *judgment of the court*, said that the notes, said by the police to have been made contemporaneously, but alleged *by the defendant to* have been fabricated, had been the only evidence against the defendant.

Looking at those notes could not have helped the jury to decide whether or not they were bogus. They had been given them as an aide-memore.

It was plain on the authority of *R v Fenlon* ((1980) 71 Cr App R 307,310-312) that that had been a material irregularity.

Prejudice in report

In re B (a Minor)

Lord Justice Cumming-Bruce, sitting with Mr Justice Drake in the *Court of Appeal* on October 12 said that it was for the judge to decide whether he would be influenced by *anything in the guardian ad litem's* confidential report which was adverse to a party in adoption *proceedings.*

HIS LORDSHIP said that if any such matter was going to have an effect on the judge's mind justice *required that the judge should give* an opportunity to the party who might be prejudiced to know what *was said against him or her.*

Justice required that the potentially prejudiced party should be *given an opportunity to answer any* criticism in the witness box.

It was for the judge to decide how *to proceed in order to* give the party that opportunity, bearing in mind that it was in the discretion of the *judge whether to let parties see the* confidential report.

Correction

In *R v Swansea City Council, Ex parte Quietlynn Ltd* (*The Times* October 19) junior counsel for Swansea was Mr Brian Ash. Mr Charles Cross appeared for the other councils.

THE ARTS

Opera

Shortage of style

Idomeneo

Theatre Royal, Glasgow

This is the year of *Idomeneo*, with Jean-Pierre Ponnelle at Salzburg, Trevor Nunn for Glyndebourne and now, as if not to be outdone, John Cox for Scottish Opera. But this new production is really a second-hand affair: although it claims to be radically rethought, it is basically the Turner-inspired collaboration of John Cox and his designer, Roger Butlin, which Glyndebourne saw 10 years ago.

The obvious parellel is drawn between the classicist Turner "capable of supreme romantic violence" and the Mozart of the recharged *opera seria*, and that is that. The circular, semi-framed cultural slide-show accounts for an initial confusion of perceptive level, yields subsequent risible moments (protagonists peer into the projected pictures and throw sand at them) and, with an apology for arches and steps, leaves little space on stage for very much else.

Not that there is very much else. The Scottish Opera chorus, who sing best and suffer most, are a motly crew of drab court ladies, Cretan officers, removal men and Greek orthodox priests (Idomeneo appears to help himself to a host before the sacrifice), and have neither space nor incentive to relate significantly to the principals.

For, just as the misconceived Turner idea makes one static and superficial point, so the production itself makes very little move to find a style, an interpretative level which will evolve with and illuminate one of Mozart's finest scores. It is notoriously hard to pull off; but Mr Cox has played into the hands of those who fear it is impossible. Programmed responses are the order of the day, from sharp intakes of dismayed breath from the chorus to the marked-out pacing and angles of each individual character.

Margaret Marshall, who at least is well sung into the part of Ilia from Glyndebourne this summer, knows what she is about and has at least the vocal equipment to fuse Ilia's vulnerability and enduring dignity. Ian Caley, as Idamante, knows his way around the role, too, and has the penetration of timbre if not the finer points of artistry required if this part must be played by a tenor.

Paula Scalera, making her debut with Scottish Opera, needs far more production help to give focus and point to her vocally voluptuous, one-dimensional Electra. Her compatriot Michael Myers (whose St Louis performance in *Postman* I enjoyed in Edinburgh) has more than anyone a sure grasp of the drama inside as well as outside the music, though his abbreviated "Fuor del mar" only just makes it.

György Fischer conducts the Scottish Opera Orchestra adequately but without sufficient élan or imagination to fill out the dramatic vacuum on stage.

Hilary Finch

Nicholas Kenyon meets Göran Järvefelt (right), producer of the Welsh National Opera *Ring* which begins in Cardiff tonight



Doubly prepared

When *The Rhinegold* opens at the Welsh National Opera in Cardiff tonight it will be only the beginning of a massive undertaking for the 35-year-old Swedish director Göran Järvefelt, one which represents a huge investment by the Welsh company in *his* relatively untried talents. WNO asked Järvefelt to stage *The Ring* as early as 1979 after the success of his first visit to the company, when he produced *The Magic Flute*. Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera* (not surprisingly transferred back to its Swedish setting) followed in 1982, and now *The Ring* will unfold over two seasons, with *The Valkyrie* in February, *Siegried* in September and *Twilight of the Gods* in February 1985.

Järvefelt, who began his career as an actor and then a theatre director in Sweden, has a quietly-spoken, gentle manner which belies an intensity that shines from his huge eyes. "*Rhinegold* is an introduction, a statement; it says one thing. It's very important to remember that Wagner wrote the text of *The Ring* very early on, when he was still an idealist. Later he changed the end completely, but he did not change *Rhinegold*. So I want to illuminate that change, to present each of the operas differently. They will not all look like *Rhinegold*, not at all. There is no unit set: some elements will return, yes, sometimes symbolic, sometimes more naturalistic. *The Ring* will grow from *Rhinegold*, but it does not go in a straight line, and during these rehearsals now I am coming to see more exactly how we shall do *Gotterdämerung*."

How far did he go into rehearsal, then, with a definite idea of what he wanted? "I go in *totally prepared. I must have a* year or more to think out a production. But I also need to be flexible, because the singers will make a great difference and I need to respond to what they bring to the opera. But that means I have to be doubly prepared, not less prepared. I start from the music. I want to show why it is convincing. *What is that high note: is it a* scream of pain, or joy? I want to transform it in psychological terms. I try to do a very physical kind of opera so that you can read what is going on in the bodies. If the whole ody is there expressing the music, then i begins to seem more natural that they sing instead of speaking."

So with what ideas did he go into the *Rhinegold* rehearsals? "Wagner was a politician, but in art. He thought people would change because they saw his operas, and come out of the theatre transformed. I'm not quite that optimistic! Wagner believed that ownership was a crime, and in *Rhinegold* he shows how this crime started. *Rhinegold* shows a very negative, power-ridden world, like Wagner knew. It's a comment on his society as much as a retelling of the legends. And it is very different from what comes later, in *Valkyrie* and especially in *Siegfried*, where the power-ridden world gives way to a new idealized humanistic world.

"We have set the opera in the Industrial Revolution – heavy scenery, mines and so on. The costumes and the make-up show there are no humans here, they haven't even got any real skin. The Rhinemaidens are all green, the gods all white, the giants – who are workers – are brown, and Alberich, a miner, is all black. It is partly symbolic, partly real. I could not just do it as a story in a factory, because Wagner uses the legends. And I could not do it just as a Nordic saga, because Wagner is using that all the time to comment on his own age. We are trying to find a third time, a theatrical time, where it takes place.

"It is far from Wieland Wagner's concept of symbolism. I was at first afraid, because the music needs such space, it is so vast, and we cannot have revolving stages and hydraulic platforms and all that. So I am trying for a very immediate kind of opera: I want people to follow the story as it goes in the text from character to character, to see their eyes and their movements, to identify with them. *It is* very important to understand the text, so we do it in English: I miss some of the German, of course, some alliterations, but I want the audience to follow it."

Was his a complete reinterpretation, like Chéreau's? "*On purpose* I did *not* see *Chéreau*, because it was on while I was thinking and imagining my own. I am sure it is marvellous, and I will see it later. But my idea is to show this change in Wagner's approach from an idealism to the pessimistic, metaphysical end of *Götterdämerung*. In his first text at the end Wotan changes his ideas on *politics and* creates a new humane world. Now the end is negative, and we must show that clearly."

And what about the elements of nature and natural forces? "Well, we do not have any real water, I can tell you that.... We *will have some trees, though* not in *Rhinegold*. I am not concerned with atmospheric effects; I want to make *it* theatrically alive. It's so rich, you can't limit it to one approach."

I wondered whether Järvefelt was interested in the current notion of recreating original production styles, for his earliest operatic work had been in Sweden with Arnold Ostman, *first at the* Vadstena Academy and later at Drottningholm. "It is wonderful to have the atmosphere of how the music originally sounded with the old instruments, *and to have a* theatre that is right. But I have never tried to do the staging historically. First, we don't know how they did it really, and, second, our audiences are different. The gestures from the past might mean something *different now.* But it is the same as with Wagner: the important thing is to get through what the composer wanted to say to us. Not with superficial modernizations, but to be sensitive to the inner meaning of the music."

THE ARTS


Donald Cooper

Voluptuous and sinister: Sinead Cusack, David Bradley

Theatre

The Custom of the Country
The Pit

Taking his title and his starting point from Beaumont and Fletcher, Nicholas Wright defines the custom in question as the *droit de seigneur*. A young man in a strange land proposes marriage to a local girl; the ruler then claims his pre-nuptual rights, and the pair take flight into the separation and adventures that make up the rest of the play. In Mr Wright's case, the land is the Zambesi Valley in the 1890s, and his young Englishman falls for a black girl.

Theatrically, Africa instantly conjures up the spectre of post-apartheid racial guilt; and the first reason for welcoming Mr Wright's play is that it sheds that load and presents the country in an age of innocence. Even the feudal chief, thanks to centuries of intermarriage with traders, thinks of himself as Portuguese. And Johannesburg, where most of the adventures take place, comes over as a Wild West town, with booming brothels and goldstrikes and room for every kind of eccentricity. True, the scene is frequently darkened by David Bradley as a sinister doctor with white supremacy aims and plans to lead a pioneer column into the hinterland. But all that lies in the future; and, within the limits of his story, Mr Wright accurately describes it as a romantic comedy.

One rule of this form is that motive is not to be inspected too closely, which is convenient for Mr Wright, who gives no reason for the arrival of Roger du Boys at his brother Paul's Zambesi mission; nor why Paul, once he has fled with the beautiful Tendai, makes no further reference to his missionary calling. It is enough that things happen and characters are clearly defined. Here is the voluptuous Mrs Bone (Sinead Cusack) running a chain of brothels in enigmatic partnership with a Jewish scholar (Bruce Myers). Here is a Transvaal farmer's widow who has struck gold, but lost her son Willem to the evils of night life. By degrees they are all enmeshed in the picaresque plot that finally leads to the lovers' reunion.

The main plot device is the separate arrival of Paul and Tendai in Mrs Bone's house in the respective roles of lover and maid. This side of the intrigue drags along in the weary certainty that, when one of them goes out, the other will come in. It is in the second half of the play, with all its elements in simultaneous motion, that the piece really takes off, and reveals other customs beyond that of the title. There are some extraordinary confrontations: as where Roger, having shot Willem in self-defence, is left alone in a darkened room and witnesses the mummified body return to life; whereupon the two of them return to the bereaved widow to whom Roger proposes marriage. "I'm a very good shot", he says, as a recommendation.

There are chillingly comic death scenes, such as a poisoned chocolate suicide pact between the brothel keepers ("I'm not cheating; the wrapper's stuck") who then reappear as elegantly benevolent ghosts at the concluding diplomatic banquet.

David Jones directs the piece on a square of sand backed by panelled doorways and two breast-like dunes: an apt image by Ralph Koltai for the play's success in pulling different worlds together. In a production mainly bent on action, Sarah Kestelman's imperious Afrikaner widow and Josette Simon's nobly statuesque Tendai take the breath away.

Irving Wardle

Cinema

Unbeatable against all the odds

Mickey's Christmas Carol (U)
Odeon Leicester Square

La traviata (U)
Odeon Haymarket

Malvinas: A Story of Betrayals
ICA Cinema

National Lampoon's Vacation (15)
various cinemas

Class (15)
Leicester Square Theatre

Bullshot (PG)
Classic Haymarket

The comeback of Mickey Mouse after more than thirty years' absence from the screen is an event of moment to mark the Disney diamond jubilee. In 1939 Lewis Jacobs, in his classic *Rise of the American Film*, called Mickey "the most universal movie idol besides Chaplin that has captivated through laughter the hearts of the world". Of Mickey's creator Jacobs could then write: "Disney has made the animated cartoon perhaps the finest expression of motion picture art in contemporary America . . . He has done more with the film medium since it has added sound and colour than any other director, creating a form that is of great and vital consequence not only for what it is but for what it portends."

Since Jacobs wrote, time and fashion have eclipsed or at least obscured the achievement and the regard which were Disney's at the time of the Second World War. However tastes may change, though, the excellence of Disney animation can never be in doubt. *The Jungle Book* (which is reissued in the programme with **Mickey's Christmas Carol**) is still unsurpassed for the sheer craft quality of the character animation.

Nor have Mickey's fame and popularity diminished in the years since he left the screen in 1952. He was born in 1928, but his personality – naive, gallant, incorrigibly optimistic – belongs supremely to the New Deal era. He could easily have played one of the Capra heroes – Mr Deeds, or the Mr Smith who went to Washington. As it was, in his time and through 118 cartoons, he tried his hand at a good many of the occupations of the ordinary American. Mickey was taxi-driver, farmer, deck-hand, teamster, trapper, tailor, detective, magician, plumber, musician, sailor, cowboy, jockey, boxer, skater, scientist. He was exiled from pre-war Yugoslavia for being anti-monarchist, and banned in Nazi Germany for disrespect to the Uhlan helmet. Like millions of his compatriots he managed to be a Roosevelt man in his youth without ever compromising his inbred Republican loyalties.



Honest and cheerful: Mickey Mouse as Bob Cratchit

From time to time he was opera singer, circus performer, impresario and actor; and it is as an actor-star that he reappears in *Mickey's Christmas Carol*, type-cast as cheerful, honest Bob Cratchit. It is a measure of the potency of the characters created at the Disney studios that they can be put into dramatic roles just like other movie stars; and like their human counterparts their own star personalities modify the characters they play.

It is this which gives *Mickey's Christmas Carol* the charm of irreverence. Donald's Uncle Scrooge McDuck, a character who has figured more often in comic books than cartoons, creates an odd Hibernian Ebenezer Scrooge. Goofy is an outrageously clumsy Marley's Ghost, who spoils his own spectral *mise-en-scène* by tripping over things and tumbling downstairs. Jiminy Cricket is the Ghost of Christmas Past, and Pegleg Pete, a villain now remembered only by the very oldest Disney fans, is the cigar-chewing Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. Donald (50 next birthday, and still with his original voice, Clarence Nash, who is now 79 years old) plays gallantly against type as Scrooge's happy-go-lucky nephew Fred. But even in a secondary role it is Mickey, still facing all the odds with undefeatable cheeriness and good will, who remains the indubitable star.

"I've been a bad woman", said Fanny Brice in her celebrated interpretation of *La Dame aux camellias*, " . . . but *such* good company!" Violetta, in Franco Zeffirelli's somewhat abbreviated film production of **La traviata**, must have been exceedingly good company, in days of more robust health, to have earned such palatial lodgings. Zeffirelli follows his master Visconti not only in his passion for dazzling displays of opulence, but also in conceiving *La traviata* in flashback from Violetta's deathbed. These framing scenes are visually the most impressive of the film, with the cameras roaming disconsolately through the lowering blue light of her despoiled and shrouded apartments.

Once back into the gayer past, and a complication of flashbacks from flashback, the film becomes pictorially more commonplace. The over-busy zooms and dissolves, the rather pedestrian cutting of image against score, often give the film the look of an Austro-German television operetta production, even if the sets and camerawork (Ennio Guarnieri) have more style.

Others will judge the musical significance of the production. Zeffirelli undoubtedly excels in giving psycho-dramatic credibility to romantic opera. It is possible to believe in both the desirability and the frailty of Teresa Stratas's Violetta; and Placido Domingo's Alfredo is all the more interesting for being a sophisticated man of the world rather than a callow, head-over-heels youth. Like his counterpart in Dumas, Germont can easily seem merely a monster, but Cornell MacNeil (lurking and looking remarkably like Orson Welles) manages to suggest that he is moved by some coherent moral system of his own.

". . . To see oursels as ithers see us! It wad frae mony a blunder free us . . ." The far-left viewpoint of **Malvinas: A Story of Betrayals** gives it the merit of a wholly impartial antipathy for both antagonists in the Falkland adventure. The film marshals a lot of unfamiliar documentary footage and a very broad spectrum of comment, from both countries. Its principal conclusion is that, legal issues apart (and neither British possession nor Argentine aggression wins juridical support), the short-term interests of Mrs Thatcher and General Gualtieri were identical. Both led administrations that needed a boost to national pride to offset shaky domestic morale. Only one could win, and did; though the suggestion is that, while Britain continues to pay the bills, Argentina was not entirely the loser since the failure of the gamble brought down her military tyranny. Irrespective of viewpoint, it is a highly intelligent essay.

National Lampoon's Vacation, directed by Harold Ramis from a screenplay by John Hughes, marks a happy graduation from foregoing *N.L.* forays in the field of institutional education. It is a darkly comic road film, with an average Chicago family (Chevy Chase, Beverley d'Angelo and, as their children, Anthony Michael Hall and Dana Barron) crossing the country to visit a Californian fun park. Their misfortunes recall those which W. C. Fields encountered on a similar safari in *It's a Gift*. It is low comedy, but appealing in its acerbity.

Class is definitely lower – a high school comedy with a sour twist. There is the usual frantic pressure on the first-year student to lose his virginity: the trouble is that he succeeds with his room-mate's mother. Oedipus is not in it, but none of the psychological implications is ever pursued; the end suggests the only solution is for the boys to take to each other's arms. The director was Lewis John Carlino, and it is not Jacqueline Bisset's fault if she does not make sense of her role.

So few people now can still remember Bulldog Drummond that a spoof of the character looks doomed from the start – even if it were funnier than Dick Clement's **Bullshot**. The script was written by the three leading players, Alan Shearman, Diz White and Ron House, and stretches an idea that would have made a four-minute sketch in a university revue to a feature-length collection of elaborately unfunny incidents and dialogue.

David Robinson

Pop music

Smokey Robinson
Hammersmith Odeon

William "Smokey" Robinson is not content merely to stand back and recite perfect versions of the many classic songs which have made him, for more than 20 years, the most artful singer in popular music. Instead he chooses to regenerate and refine the methods he learnt as a kid facing the famously responsive audiences in the black theatres of the Sixties; and therein lies the reason for the comparatively unsatisfying nature of the concerts he gives when, infrequently, he comes to Britain.

Robinson's standing as an enormously successful and influential singer and composer makes him a somewhat distant hero to British audiences, who have never thrown off their restraint and are happy merely to admire him. Those present on Wednesday evening were too inhibited to provide the participation which would have closed the circle and given the event the sense of occasion it demanded.

Yet, for all the enduring brilliance of his recordings, it is only in concert that Robinson's true depth is revealed: an entire dimension is added to the air of moonstruck ectasy, to the astonishingly pure falsetto and to the infinitely flexible decoration of his phrasing. Leading a band of 13 who were consistently faithful to the music's spirit, he was on this occasion, as on others, practically without flaw.

His solicitation of requests brought many of the evening's indelible moments: "My Girl", "You've Really Got a Hold on Me", stunning impromptu *a cappella* accounts of "Who's Gonna Take the Blame" and "Holly", a completely entranced reading of the weightless ballad "Ooo Baby Baby", "More Love", "Shop Around", "Mickey's Monkey" and "The Love I Saw in You Was Just a Mirage" were lifted from the archives and given an affectionate polish.

His charming tribute to the guitarist Marvin Tarplin, whose liquid chords have partnered Robinson's voice since the beginning, also displayed a proper sense of historical values. If "Blame it on Love", his current American hit, demonstrated that he is not, nowadays, infallible when it comes to choosing material from external sources, elsewhere just about every note he sang conveyed behind its sweetness the "heartache camouflaged", the clown's tears, the out-of-place smile, the emotional deception which is his imperishable theme.

Richard Williams

Television

Twilight glow

One could be forgiven for thinking that Harold Macmillan spends more time reminiscing on television than he once did in active politics; he was back again last night in **Reflections** (BBC 1).

Although there is no reason to extend the courtesy due to old age in order to cover his political past, he is still an endearing figure, or, rather, he is a good performer who can fabricate a twilight glow without a hint of self-consciousness – he gives the impression of being an Edwardian slightly aghast at the way the century has developed, a patrician who treated politics as a game in which "personalities" played the major roles.

That is why his most interesting remarks were couched in the form of memories of people – particularly Lloyd George, Hardy and Kipling. His reflections on contemporary society were not so illuminating, except for his remark that "capitalist society is more or less collapsing". I wonder how much responsibility for that he believes himself to bear.

Part of his bequest was to be seen on **Open Space** (BBC 2), which took a somewhat horrified look at Earls Court. It is, it seems, "one of the most crowded places in Europe", with over 90 nationalities among its 15,000 inhabitants. The reporter braved these multi-racial streets. "What do you most like about Earls Court?" he asked, but it seemed to be a peculiarly difficult question to answer.

"Nothing", generally. One or two said it was "interesting", which is the English for "nightmarish".

"Everyone smiling at each other", one Filipino lady suggested, but since most of the smiles came from male or female prostitutes they may not count. *Open Space* valiantly made the most of it, although the inhabitants of that area seemed to have arrived by accident and were trying to leave by design. Capital punishment, Dylan Thomas described it.

Peter Ackroyd

Dance

Onegin
Palace, Manchester

Onegin is the best of John Cranko's long dramatic ballets and one of the best made anywhere in the past half-century. It was frustrating that a Covent Garden production fell through because of problems about the decor, but the Royal Ballet's loss has turned into the Festival Ballet's gain. Their production, premièred in Manchester this week, is a welcome addition to the repertory.

Cranko's choreography, faithfully restaged by Georgette Tsinguirides, rightly put the emphasis throughout on the central figures but always set them against an animated background that gives a social context to the personal drama. Audience suspicion of any unfamiliar work resulted on Wednesday in houses a little less full than I have usually seen at the Palace; judging by the applause, the absentees will be kicking themselves when they hear their friends' enthusiasm.

Festival Ballet has not yet got its full measure, but the ballet is strong enough to overcome that. Two casts are dancing the roles so far. In the first team, Patricia Ruanne makes a Tatiana who grows in conviction and depth through the evening, rising to a strong climax in the final scene of renunciation. Mary McKendry, taking that role at the matinée, offered a touching interpretation that could grow richer in detail with repeated performances.

The title part is not easy to characterize. Ben van Cauwenbergh catches the right spirit although his acting is all big gestures, without much subtlety yet. Alexander Sombart shows rather self-love than pride and, with an Olga lacking sparkle, the emphasis in that matinée cast swung to Mark Silver's impassioned Lensky. A recent recruit to Festival Ballet, he has matured and developed a lot during his self-imposed American exile.

Maurizio Belleza, in the first cast, is also a personable Lensky, although so sunny natured that his quarrel with Onegin looks rather too much like a tantrum. He is matched with a notably spirited Olga in Renata Calderini. The smaller characters are reasonably well done (notably Jane Devine's Madame Larina).

Festival Ballet's orchestra sometimes sounds thin, but Kurt-Heinz Stolze's score, adapted from mainly unfamiliar Tchaikovsky pieces, is always a pleasure.

John Percival

Why the PLO fell apart in Beirut

The Palestine Liberation Organization grew into the world's best known guerrilla army under the leadership of Yassir Arafat. Then, quite suddenly it disintegrated. What caused its downfall?

By Robert Fisk



Face to face: Arafat and the former allies now ranged against him, Mahmoud Labadi, Moussa Arafat and President Assad of Syria

At mid-morning on Palm Sunday, 1978 Mahmoud Labadi, Yassir Arafat's bespectacled and unbane press spokesman, was driving down the main coastal highway south of Sidon. It was a bad day for the Palestinians. Israel had just sent 20,000 troops into Lebanon to attack the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Israeli jets were bombing and strafing the main road. A quarter of a million civilian refugees were walking or driving broken vehicles up the highway towards the dubious safety of Beirut. But what troubled Labadi – who three times had to take cover in the orchards beside the road as marauding jets flew overhead – was the large number of Palestinian guerrilla fighters who were also heading north. Gunmen were crowded on pick-up trucks while Fatah guerrillas holding Kalashnikov assault rifles were also fleeing the battle zone, sometimes pushing the refugees off the road in their desperation to escape.

Labadi was appalled. He drove at once back to Sidon and burst into the PLO's operations headquarters in the city suburbs where he found Yassir Arafat, for 13 years the supreme Palestinian military commander, surrounded by his most senior officers. The colonels and lieutenants whom Arafat had promoted over the years, Labadi remembers, all had "long, unshaven faces". Among them was Colonol Haj Ismael, the commander of southern Lebanon who had himself fled the battle.

Several of those present recall what happened next. Arafat, who still used his old code-name of Abu Amar, took one look at Labadi's face and asked: "What's wrong, Mahmoud, what's wrong?" And Labadi replied slowly: "Our people are running away, Abu Amar." So Arafat stood up, put his peaked military forage cap on his head and – ignoring the protestations of Haj Ismael – left his bunker and climbed into Labadi's car. Followed by his retinue of complaining colonels, he drove to an abandoned petrol station just south of the Zahrani oil refinery on the main highway where he ordered four Fatah guerrillas to stand across the road and force any Palestinian fighters who were running away to turn back to the battlefield. Labadi still remembers the incident with bitterness. "Arafat was courageous," he says. "But those people like Haj Ismael were angry at me because I told Arafat the truth. They were loyal but they were cowards."

Those Palestinians who remain loyal to Arafat and those who have forsaken him both look back to this incident as an important moment in the history of the Fatah movement, crystallizing the weakness inherent in the PLO long before last year's Israeli siege of West Beirut. How could a man of such obvious charisma as Arafat have surrounded himself with such incompetent officers? How did they ever achieve their positions? In Arafat's encircled stronghold of Tripoli today, the question is not put so bluntly. But in Damascus, the men who have turned against him – who have arguably betrayed him – look back even further for the seeds of the mutiny that has now torn apart the world's best known guerrilla army.

The first dissatisfaction with Arafat's leadership was voiced, in secret of course, after the PLO was driven out of Jordan by King Husain's army in September, 1970. As one of the mutineer officers in Damascus puts it: "We had an organization in Amman but we were not capable of holding it together. We could not restrain the Palestinian street gangs. People got rich. We harmed our relationship with the Jordanian government and with the Jordanian people. The PLO never said so at the time but we lost thousands of our members when we came to Lebanon – young men with university degrees, people we needed, who said that we could not fight, that we were corrupt. So they left Fatah."

The issue of corruption was an important one once the Palestinians had established their headquarters in the predominantly Muslim sector of West Beirut after their ejection from Jordan. Saudi Arabia began to channel many millions of pounds into the organization.

The PLO's account was never maintained at less than a million US dollars but further funds were spread around at least ten other accounts, sometimes in the names of finance committee members – men like Abu Usama, Abu Ala and Fouad Shoubaki – who in turn ploughed the money into investments for Fatah. In this way, the PLO bought a series of huge farms in Syria, Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia and Guinea. Incredibly, it also bought major shareholdings in several shipping companies operating out of Greece and Cyprus. Moussa Arafat, Yassir Arafat's own cousin, became the owner of a farm near Damascus, paid for with PLO funds.

Yassir Arafat's reaction to allegations of corruption is fierce. "They haven't the right to speak about these big lies... We haven't the ability to do (sic) any corruption. It is shameful of

PLO mutineer
'We had an organization in Amman but could not hold it together. We could not restrain the street gangs.'

them to mention it. They are repeating the rumours of dirty intelligence services."

Ahmed Abdul Rahman, the man who took over Labadi's job as Arafat's spokesman last year, insists that the PLO's funds were invested under private names because Arab states do not allow organizations like the PLO to own property. He rejects – as does Arafat – the claim by the mutineers that there are 20 millionaires among the leaders of Fatah, all of them close to Arafat himself. Nevertheless, Arafat's hold on power within the guerrilla movement is an intensely personal one. He is himself leader of Fatah's revolutionary council. His cousin Haj Mutlak is a member. So is his nephew – his sister's son – Nasser Kudwa, and so too is his brother Fathi who was brought onto the council last year.

Moussa Arafat is also on the revolutionary council. Even though one of Arafat's relatives holds an elected post the appointment of the other three was bound to lead to allegations of nepotism. Arafat's treatment of some of his military officers gave these charges the smell of insurrection. Back in 1976, for

Yassir Arafat
'The people who talk like this are trying to destroy our glorious revolution. It is shameful. They are repeating rumours'.

example, the PLO commander in southern Lebanon was a middle-aged Fatah officer called Abu Moussa, an argumentative but generally efficient guerrilla fighter who was sacked by Arafat in favour of Haj Ismael, the man who was to flee his post in 1978. Abu Moussa was put out to grass for four years as a member of the PLO's Beirut "operations room", a largely impotent talking shop for retired Palestinian tacticians which had no real power within the guerrilla movement.

Another officer frozen out by Arafat was Nimr Saleh, code-named Abu Saleh, who was a member of Fatah's central committee and at one time on the general command of Fatah's *Assifa* (storm) guerrillas, an unimaginative and slightly pompous man who none the less regularly criticized the PLO's unpreparedness for war.

But Arafat's own appointments quickly proved disastrous. Labadi likes to set the scene for what followed. "The Palestinian movement at that time was like an Oxford student who never did any work," he says. "Instead of studying, he chased girls and got drunk. He never prepared for his examination. He would boast – just like Arafat boasted that he would 'defy Begin to invade' – but when the day of the examinations came in June, 1982, he failed the examination. He got only 30 per cent. Against the Israelis, that's not bad, but it's not good enough. We held out in Beirut for 90 days, but that's not enough."

The Israelis quickly captured Tyre and Sidon. Haj Ismael again left his post. Arafat's deputy Khalil Wazzir – a thoughtful and brave man who is the only Arafat loyalist still respected by the mutineers – said later that Haj Ismael had been cut off from his men while leading an attack on an Israeli tank unit on a hill east of Sidon. But most Fatah officers quickly came to the conclusion that Haj Ismael was guilty of cowardice.

Surrounded in Beirut, the guerrillas savagely argued among themselves. Abu Saleh, his own home in the Fakhani district destroyed in an air attack, complained more openly about Arafat's colleagues.

Arafat allegedly turned on Labadi one evening, exasperated by Labadi's constant harping on the need to stay in Beirut. "Never mind what I tell the foreign press about staying here," he said. "We have got to go."

In late September, after the PLO had left, Arafat sat down in Damascus and watched an uncut American television video showing the corpses in Sabra and Chatila. Those who know him well say that he realized then how he had negotiated with the wrong people for the wrong guarantees. It was too late.

The Syrians had already decided to take over the PLO's guerrilla movement, thus becoming the undisputed vanguard of the Palestinian revolution. A year earlier, Abu Saleh had been sent to Damascus by Arafat on a goodwill visit. It had been an attempt to move Abu Saleh out of Beirut but it backfired because the Syrians swiftly realized how disenchanted Abu Saleh had become with the PLO leadership. He and President Assad had a secret six-hour meeting. And when Abu Saleh returned to Damascus in the autumn of last year, Colonel Ahmed Diab, the head of Syrian national security, offered him a diplomatic passport. Abu Saleh then arranged for Abu Khaled El-Amla, a Fatah student representative expelled by Arafat, to meet Diab. The mutiny was born.

Arafat knew what was going on in Damascus but his judgment appeared to desert him. Far away in Tunis, he decided that the remaining guerrillas in northern Lebanon needed a commander and appointed, of all people, Haj Ismael. There was uproar within Fatah, not least among colleagues of Abu Moussa, who was asked to accept an inferior position. Arafat then accused Abu Moussa of running away from a battle at Jezzine in 1982, a charge that appears to be untrue.

Abu Moussa was already consorting with the Syrians. He held a series of meetings in Damascus with Colonel Ali Duba, the head of Syrian army intelligence, and with Colonel Razi Kanaan, the head of Syria's military intelligence in Lebanon. As a result, General Ali Haidar, the commander of Syria's special forces' army units sent a nine-truck convoy of guns and ammunition to Abu Moussa's camp in the Bekaa valley early this year. Arafat's picture was torn from the walls of the camp. The break was in the open.

Syria promised the mutineers Libyan and Iranian money as more of Arafat's former henchmen turned up in Damascus. Arafat had sent the increasingly argumentative Labadi into exile last year, ordering him to edit the PLO's glossy magazine *Palestine* in Brussels. Labadi joined Abu Saleh in Syria. "I was truly shocked," Arafat said when I asked about Labadi's defection.

Arafat appealed to Soviet President Andropov, who sent a friendly but puzzled letter in reply. The PLO leader made his greatest miscalculation. He went to Damascus and appealed to President Assad's brother Rifaat to quash the mutiny, assuming that Rifaat would take Saudi Arabia's advice and do so. Since the President of Syria had already given his blessing to the rebellion, Arafat was in effect trying to set brother against brother. Both Assad brothers hurriedly approved his expulsion.

In one last effort to quell the mutiny, Arafat carried out a purge of his own ranks, dispatching Haj Ismael into exile in Tunis. Again it was too late. Today, Abu Saleh sits in his neat Damascus office, talking wistfully of the need to "purify" Fatah. Surrounded by Syrian troops in Tripoli, Arafat talks of betrayal, continually repeating that he is still the elected and legitimate leader of the PLO.

Abu Saleh and Abu Moussa are working on that, trying to win a majority in Fatah to unseat him. The last battle cannot be far away.

moreover... Miles Kington

I may not come back

New Orleans

When people out here learn I am British, they sometimes nudge me and say they hear that British politics is brightening up these days. I would like to think this meant that the wit and wisdom of Neil Kinnock is infiltrating the American public awareness. But of course they mean what I fear they mean, the Cecil Parkinson affair – that typically British business in which everyone seems to have tried to do everything for the best and ended up making a hash of it, and which is the only piece of British news reported here at all.

The most serious mistake made in the whole sorry story was the newspapers' decision to give it coverage, and that is why I left Britain a week ago, determined to stay in exile until it was all over.

I arrived in Lousiana to find the local politicians doing what polticians should really be doing: attempting to justify their reelection. At the top, they are looking for a new governor; at the bottom, they are looking for new dog-catchers and assistant deputy postmen, and by American law all these posts and everything in between are reelectable. When the inhabitants vote tomorrow they will have to fill in a form as long as an income-tax return, but at least they will then be able to get rid of all the posters which have festooned this fair state almost as badly as fringe posters swamp Edinburgh at Festival time, and you can't get worse than that.

Basically, these posters yield very little information about the candidate. They give the voters their surname, their best passport photograph, one of their nicknames (usually Bud) and the post they hope to be voted into. Political thought is limited to a slogan reading either "Stand by your man" or "Time for a change". After a while I found myself hoping for a variant, such as maybe: "Hi! I'm Cecil Parkinson! I'm new over here but very experienced!"

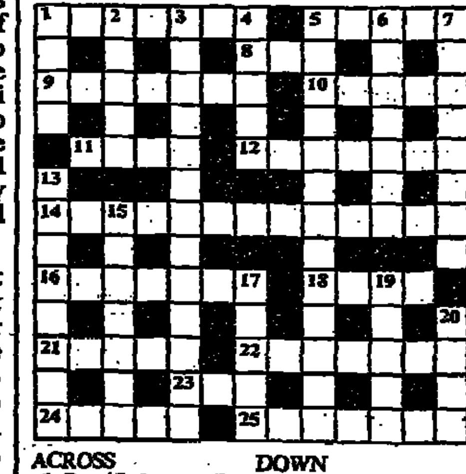
The battle to be governor is, for once, extremely interesting, especially as both candidates have been governors before. Ex-governor Edwards, a Democrat, was in office for two terms (eight years) and became very popular, having the kind of expansive personality that voters down here like and which tends to override any rumours of inefficiency or even corruption. Not being able to run for a third consecutive term he withdrew gracefully, but the ensuing scramble for his safe seat was so ungraceful and so clearly fixed that most of the Democrats did something unheard of: they rallied behind the Republican candidate, Treen, who became the first Republican governor since the Civil War.

Treen has been sober and industrious. He has also, unfortunately, presided over a collapse in the local oil industry so that the state finances, through no particular fault of his own, have slid from surplus to deficit. Now Edwards is fighting him to come back as governor and although the polls show them neck-and-neck, there seems to be a feeling that the colourful Edwards can squeeze in ahead of the unflamboyant Treen.

Louisiana, remember, is the state that had the legendary Huey Long as governor in the 1930s. Everyone knew he was a crook and everyone seemed to love him. Going farther back, it is significant that under French domination Louisiana was inefficient, corrupt and cheerful, while as a Spanish possession it was very well run indeed in a quiet sort of way. What is significant about this is that the Spanish history is always played down, and that the French are given credit for almost everything the Spaniards did.

So have a look at the election result, come Sunday or Monday, and see whether Louisiana has gone back to its old colourful ways. Assuming, of course, that Mr Parkinson is not still dominating the headlines and crowding out the real news. If he has been relegated to yesterday's news, then I shall be able to come back. The trouble is out here that no British news ever gets through and I may be here for life. Actually, I'm not sure I'd mind that very much.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 181)



ACROSS
1 Ramified power (7)
5 Goatlike man (5)
8 Hair tail (3)
9 Supreme sovereign (7)
10 In the midst of (5)
11 Promote intensively (4)
12 Rustic (7)
14 Transglobal (5,3,5)
16 Thoroughgoing (7)
18 Roué (4)
21 Question intensely (5)
22 Bell tongue (7)
23 Scrolls receptacle (3)
24 Bernese Alps mountain (5)
25 Fill to capacity (7)

DOWN
1 Cooker (4)
2 Slightly drunk (5)
3 Upright (13)
4 Delete (5)
5 Examination order (6,7)
6 Lure drawer (7)
7 King's killer (8)
13 Halt Parliament (8)
15 Perpetual (7)
17 Needs (5)
19 Tenth Greek letter (5)
20 Let loose (4)

SOLUTION TO No 180
ACROSS: 1 Pedant 5 Tyrant 8 Era 9 Molten 10 Betide 11 Reef 12 Bread bin 14 Stock Exchange 17 Tear away 19 Orgy 21 Placet 23 Animal 24 Ton 25 Osprey 26 Sanity
DOWN: 2 Elope 3 Artificer 4 Tenable 5 Table 6 Rut 7 Nodding 13 Draconian 15 Trellis 16 Caymans 18 Witty 20 Grant 22 Car

هكذا من الاصل

FRIDAY PAGE

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Putting the baby first



Although general practitioners are frequently asked if sexual intercourse can safely continue throughout pregnancy, the standard textbooks recommend it should not take place in the final six weeks in case it precipates labour or introduces infection. Where there is an increased risk of miscarriage, abstinence for the whole 40 weeks is advised. The medical newspaper *Hospital Doctor*, has recently reviewed three research projects in an attempt to assess the value of this standard teaching.

In 1979 an article in *The Lancet* confirmed traditional views, but only 70 London women were investigated. There was a clear association between a poor condition of the baby at birth and sexual intercourse in the last month of pregnancy. A very much more comprehensive study from Israel, also published in *The Lancet*, was based on interviews with 10,000 women; in uncomplicated pregnancies there appeared to be no danger to either mother or baby.

The third paper analysed, North Carolina, showed that whatever their doctors' advice, two-thirds of women stop intercourse before the final month.

As a result of the Israel study, most doctors now agree intercourse is safe in normal pregnancies.

Biting back

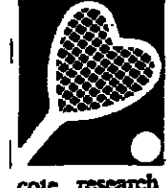


Because of increased resistance by malaria to drugs, and mosquitoes to insecticides, the disease, which was well controlled in the mid-1960s, is again becoming a threat to the health of 1,900 million people who live in malarial zones, and to travellers.

Two new anti-malaria drugs are being developed. One, melfloquine, has been researched at the Walter Reed Army Institute in Washington. The other is derived from two of the active components of quinghao, a Chinese herb which has been used to treat malaria for 2,000 years.

People intending to visit malarial zones should ask their doctors which drugs are still useful in the area concerned, and what dose they should take. The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in Keppel Street is very helpful to those whose general practitioners are out of touch with the present situation.

Squash alert



Tens of thousands of middle-aged worker in sedentary occupations risk heart trouble by playing an occasional vigorous game of squash.

Dr Robin Norcote, research fellow in cardiology at Glasgow University, has studied 50 cases of sudden death on squash courts, recorded in the press since 1977. There are probably many more unreported. Dr Northcote, Dr D. Ballantyne and their team investigated heart performance after playing squash in 21 volunteers with an average age of 33. Their research, reported in *Pulse*, showed that the game exerts a 20 per cent greater workload on the heart than a rally at tennis and that whereas tennis rallies are short, squash is played at a violent pace for up to 40 minutes.

A faulty heart rhythm, either with or without an obstruction of a coronary artery, is a frequent cause of death. It was therefore worrying that one third of the players developed arrhythmias while playing, and about the same number in the first 30 minutes after the game. The reasearch workers suggest that the vigorous nature of squash may cause biochemical changes in the blood which encourage arrhythmias.

Heartitch

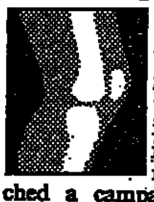


Few physicians would have arrived at the diagnosis in a case reported in *Medical News*, of a man who had a recurrently itchy nose. He was suffering from angina.

The classic story of angina is of a gripping, or heavy, pain behind the breastbone, radiating to the neck and jaw, after exercise or emotion. However, anginal pain is fequently not typical; it can, and often does, come on at rest; it can be felt on either side of the chest or in the back; it can simulate toothache, indigestion, or cause pains in the hand.

A careful history, a high level of suspicion and modern equipment are needed to make a diagnosis. Dr Robert Reichstein and Dr William Stein needed all three when they saw a 60-year-old New York man who complained that the bridge of his nose itched when he walked quickly or made love. The itching disappeared when he rested. As simple measures failed to help, the doctors arranged an exercise electrocardiograph. It showed a clear relationship between the itch and physical activity. After a coronary bypass operation the patient no longer had to scratch his nose or pause at inopportune moments.

Softening up



In America the US Department of Health and Human Services, and in Britain a private health insurance firm working with a woman's magazine, have launched a campaign to educate the public about osteoporosis, the softening process which occurs in bones in both sexes from middle age.

One woman in four over the age of 65 has suffered a fracture due to osteoporosis. The production of oestrogen, which slows down normal bone loss and helps calcium absorption, declines at the menopause.

The spine is also weakened so that vertebral bones become compressed, giving rise to the bent stoop of old age. Sometimes minimal strain causes a vertebra to collapse, a crush fracture.

Synthetic male and thyroid hormones have been used in treatment, but these tend to stabilize the condition rather than increase bone mass. Calcium and fluoride medication offers hope of reversing the situation, but even at the correct dose, side effects can be unpleasant.

As treatment is difficult doctors emphasize the need for prevention. Women should see their doctors to discuss hormone therapy to replace the oestrogen. As physical activity stimulates bone production, both sexes should exercise regularly.

A minor degree of malnutrition in the elderly is common. Recent research work has shown that many women have a grossly inadequate calcium intake, with too little dairy produce and vitamin D. They may also suffer from a lack of fresh green vegetables and protein. Excessive alcohol should be avoided.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford
Medical Correspondent

Echoes of laughter

Gerard Hoffnung died in 1959. His humour lives on thanks to the efforts of his widow.

Madeleine Kingsley meets Annetta Hoffnung

Gerard Hoffnung's sudden death from a brain haemorrhage in 1959 deprived his cult following of a cartoonist, a broadcasting humorist and the musician-extraordinaire whose Festival Hall extravaganzas (featuring solos for vacuum cleaner and the A flat foghorn) cocked an eccentric snook at classical pomposity.

Annetta Hoffnung also lost a husband of only 34, the father of three-year-old Ben and baby Emily. Looking back now, she says her seven-year marriage was "perhaps always too charmed to last". It would be understandable if, like Queen Victoria, Annetta Hoffnung had embraced widowhood as an institution of black weeds and if-only bitterness: "But I'd hate people to think I'm one of those wives of the late famous who never let go or move forward," she says.

"Certainly I've taken charge of my husband's work – it would have been a great loss for everyone if the drawings had been locked away and forgotten. But I've never thought to promote a Hoffnung industry as such. I've simply responded to the demand which far from dwindling actually seems to be increasing each year, as new generations discover Gerard. Finding myself out of the blue in a shattering situation which no one could change – you can't *argue* against losing a husband – what luckier person could I have been in the world than to have such marvellous material to earn my living with for 25 years?



Hoffnung ... by Hoffnung

Annetta Hoffnung's role as co-producer and director (with Tom Bergman, her friend and fellow Hoffnung enthusiast) of the Hoffnung gala concerts, is by no means a mere paper acknowledgment. Following her first timpanist's triumph with a seven-foot bass drum at the original concert a year before Gerard's death, Annetta Hoffnung appeared in this summer's South Bank performance as a befrilled and black-stockinged chambermaid, a glorified props girl who brought on melodious beer bottles and musical garden hose as required.

Although she insists that she was always the non-creative Hoffnung partner, she has inspired such jokes in the Hoffnung tradition as the coughing stooge in the auditorium who is publicly reproved by the conductor, and the bevy of small children who burst out of a grand piano to sing.

Mrs Hoffnung was also responsible for this summer season's premiere of a "romantic" work by Wilfrid Josephs which her husband had always planned to commission. Joseph's "Concerto d'Amore" presents the predicament of two tempermental violinists booked, by some ghastly blunder, to perform the same solo piece. A male and female musician eventually agree to play in turns, but gradually become enamoured of one another's playing and persons, exchanging addresses and embraces over the final *rallentando*.

This autumn Annetta Hoffnung has overseen the Hoffnung cartoon exhibition in the Durham Light Infantry Museum, and the reissue by Souvenir Press of Hoffnung's half dozen musical cartoon books, which have, she points out with justifiable pride, never been out of print for 30 years. On Boxing Day she begins a two-month tour taking in Houston, Pasadena, Frankfurt and Paris.

Any morning the post may bring an order for 8,000 Hoffnung greeting cards from New York's Kennedy Centre "which means I spend the next three days painstakingly counting them out, nipping down to the supermarket for a likely cardboard box and driving the precious package down to the freight office at Heathrow airport".

The Hoffnung headquarters is now a pink-washed house in Hampstead village, where the sitting room has a place for the famous brass foghorn ("We bought it on holiday in Bognor Regis; there's a good throwaway line for you"), a whimsical bronze statue representing Gerard as a cherubic toddler and a Chagall which is the first picture the Hoffnungs bought. A garage at the bottom of the garden serves as a repository for 14 crates of Hoffnung's drawings.

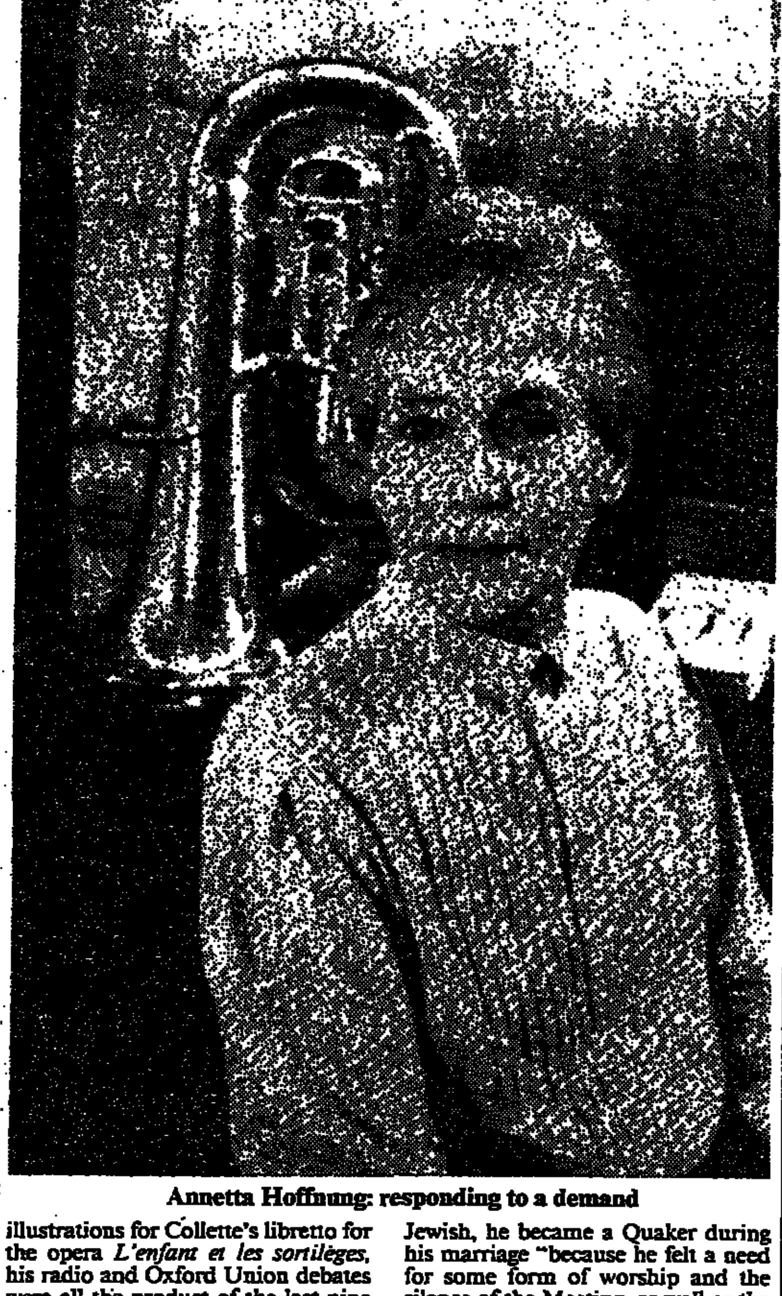
The house is light and decorative – a far cry, says Annetta Hoffnung, from the ponderously Edwardian house in the garden suburb on the other side of Hampstead Heath, which Gerard inherited from his German mother, and where the young couple lived. There, Gerard once picked up his cherry-cheeked housekeeper, Maria, and held her out of the window by way of a prank punishment for burning his dinner.

Annetta Hoffnung, now in her late 50s, looks slim and serene in tight grey cords, a fluffy mohair cardigan and pink sneakers. Her silver hair is cropped boyishly and her face is remarkably unlined for one who smiles so often.

Her terribly happy but culturally "nothing" childhood in Folkestone did little, she says, to prepare her for the job of globe-trotting custodian of Gerard's memory. "If not for the war," she says, "It's quite possible I might have married a south coast bank clerk." Instead she was evacuated to school in Merthtyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan, joined the Royal Marine Wrens and then after the war exchanged that uniform for the fawn frock, gloves and monogrammed felt bowler of the Norland nanny.

As former nanny to the children of cartoonist Roland Emmett, Annetta (then Nurse Bennett) was invited back to dinner and there met Gerard Hoffnung: "The Emmetts had a shrewd idea we might hit it off – how right they were."

Annetta Hoffnung would not say so, but she was clearly responsible for Gerard's blossoming into an immensely prolific and varied artist. The little books, the conerts, his illustrations for Collette's libretto for the opera *L'enfant et les sortilèges*, his radio and Oxford Union debates were all the product of the last nine years or so of his life.



Robin Laurance

Annetta Hoffnung: responding to a demand

For the first time too, he sat down and learned to read music. He took up the tuba and became accomplished enough to play professionally.

While she was bringing up Benedict (now 28 and a prodigious classical timpanist) and Emily (a gifted sculptress working in her own studio in Wapping) Annetta Hoffnung was too busy to write off their life together. "Being a single parent can sometimes be easier. There is no conflict when the major decisions have to be made."

She planned to write a biography of Gerard for publication in 1979, the twentieth anniversary of his death. But next year's anniversary – the twenty-fifth – now seems certain to come and go without the promised book.

She is honest enough to say she is daunted by the prospect of "trying to find words to put Gerard across and what he was *like* to people. It is actually very difficult to convey how beloved – if impossible – people found him".

Annetta feels that she must add something about the serious side of Gerard's nature. Although born Jewish, he became a Quaker during his marriage "because he felt a need for some form of worship and the silence of the Meeting, as well as the cause of non-violence, suited him." Gerard was also for a time a prison visitor and would frequently bring ex-inmates of Pentonville back to the house. One convict, on hearing of his death, remarked: "When my own mother died I didn't feel like this."

Mrs Hoffnung is nourished by the great weight of laughter that is her husband's legacy: "Sitting quietly behind my bookstall at various exhibitions I've relished the reactions of visitors who've plainly never heard of Hoffnung before. Unlike the expectant delight of those who bound up the stairs having travelled three and half thousand miles to view Hoffnung, the uninitiated stare, bemused, at the first Hoffnung frame, move on quite po-faced, then suddenly, around the third frame, realize what they're seeing and return with heaving shoulders to the start. It's my delight to share in such rare, spontaneous laughter."

Next Sunday, Annetta Hoffnung will give a slide-illustrated talk on her husband's life and work at 3pm at the Bloomsbury Theatre, Gordon Square, London (387 9629).

FIRST PERSON

by Gay Search

It's a bizarre experience, seeing a chunk of your life dramatized on stage, partly reminded of the reality, and partly caught up in the fiction created from it. Hugh Whitmore's play *Pack of Lies* (which opens at the Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue on Wednesday) is based on events in autumn 1960 when MI5 agents spent more than two months in our house, watching Soviet spies Peter and Helen Kroger, who were later sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

During the five years they had lived opposite, the Krogers had become friends – Helen popped in to see my mother practically every day – and when Jim Skardon of MI5 first came to talk to my parents their name was not mentioned. He was, he said, interested in a man who spent weekends in the area, and showed them a photograph (of Gordon Lonsdale, otherwise Conon Molody of the KGB as it turned out), but my parents hadn't seen him. MI5 had not been able to discover where this man was going and, since our house overlooked the end of the alleyway he used, they asked if they could station agents in the house for a couple of days.

On the first Sunday, my mother was looking out of the kitchen window when she saw the man in the photograph come out of the Krogers' front door, hurry down the path and disappear into the alleyway. The agents stayed on; my brother and I, then 17 and 15, were told that they were police of sorts, that we weren't to say a word about them to *anyone*, but we were not told who they were watching. My mother, on the other hand, had to go on seeing Helen almost every day, pretending nothing was wrong.

There were close shaves. One of the girls, in her haste to hide when she saw Helen coming, left her handbag on the kitchen floor. My mother didn't spot it until Helen was already in the room, then picked it up and flung it into a cupboard saying: "That daughter of mine never puts anything away".

With hindsight, what she did during those nine weeks was extraordinary. She was forced to take on a highly trained, experienced professional at her own deceitful game, and won. Once it was all over, it remained a source of great sadness. She never went to sleep without thinking about Helen in Holloway.

I believe now that it shortened her life. She died of a heart attack 13 years ago at the age of 63. For years, I thought it was just bad luck. After all, MI5 didn't know that first day that Lonsdale's contacts would turn out to be the Krogers. But then last year, Nigel West revealed in his book *A Matter of Trust MI5 1945-72*, that when they approached my parents, they had known for several weeks exactly where Lonsdale was going.

My father was remarkably sanguine about it – "What else would you have expected them to do?" he said – but I was very angry and bitter at the stress and misery they had cynically subjected my mother to. Yes, I understand about the national interest, and I know how much damage the Portland spy ring did to our defences, but then what Hugh Whitemore calls "hardcore government" steamrollers the people you love, it's impossible to feel anything else.

Back to school for the young in mind

There are three stages of life: childhood, adult working life and retirement. Children grow up faster, working lives are cut by unemployment, redundancy and early retirement, and so the third age becomes longer. People in this time of life are still energetic and eager to remain involved in the outside world, not thrown onto the scrap heap. How to pass another possible 20 or 30 years without an organized role in life has become one of the major concerns of the 1980s. In London, one solution is gradually emerging, an organization conceived and run by retired people called the University of the Third Age.

Joe Ryan had agreed to pick me up from Hanwell station. He didn't like this new hatchback. They'd always had second-hand cars in the past, to fit his four boys in, but they'd bought a new one because it wouldn't need so much repairing – although he was doing car maintenance at evening classes – and it had to be a hatchback to carry manure for the allotment he'd inherited from his wife on his retirement.

"A sort of div... of what used to be *her* labour," he explained. "Some things I'm not allowed to do, such as the washing up, because I don't do it properly, but I can dry, and clean the windows from the outside and polish the floor. We sorted out which we were best at."

He talks cheerfully, with a bit of overcompensatory bluster to make a stranger feel at home. At 61, a tallish, lightly built man with grey hairs only just in the majority, he took an early retirement two years ago from the Post Office, where he'd worked since joining the Civil Service in Liverpool at 16. He was a personnel manager, responsible, ironically, for preparing staff for retirement.

"We like them to start planning about five years in advance," he said, unconscious of the still habitual use of "we" and the present tense. "For some people, men especially, it can be a very traumatic experience. If they're not prepared for it, some of them can just give up and die, you know. We advise them how best to invest their money, what clubs they can join, how to claim their entitlements – rebates, benefits, travel cards and such like. We have an Old Colleagues' Association where they meet and we get retired members to come back and speak."

So at least he'd been prepared for his own retirement. "Well actually, I didn't think much about it until it happened," he said.

Early retirement had given the Ryans an additional redundancy payment which I assumed had been wisely invested. But no. It was a point on which Mrs Ryan took pleasure in setting me straight. "We went to Hawaii," she said firmly. "I made sure. All down the West Coast, San Francisco, Los Angeles . . . ."

What makes Anne and Joe Ryan different from thousands of other retired British couples is that they have found an outlet for their energies which has solved, to a large extent, the problem of how to cope with the next 15 or 20 years of retirement.

The Ryans are two of the founder members of U3A the University of the Third Age in London which, after two trial terms, comes into full operation this autumn. It offers courses of study and activities to retired people and those out of work, and is organized and administered by the members themselves.

Anne Ryan read about a proposed U3A last year, in a copy of *Options* magazine, and she and Joe volunteered to join a group of 70 other interested retired people for a study week at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The idea of U3A is based on the *Université de la Troisième Age*, which runs successfully throughout France. "But we're not the Open University," Anne explained. "What we wanted to avoid was a formal teacher-pupil relationship – I think we're all a bit too old for that – and any of the competitiveness that comes with exams. We don't have degrees or diplomas. We just wanted there to be the opportunity for *anyone* to be able to come along and have the chance to find out more about something they were interested in, with other people."

During their week in Cambridge, they chose from seven self-taught courses – Anne did French; Joe did local history. Group members prepared a paper and read it to the rest of the group.

"It all sounds a bit daunting, I know," said Joe. "Ther were all levels of competence and some people were initially very shy. But everyone had something to add, something to teach the others. One or two were very knowledgeable and were able to guide the rest of us along."

At the end of the successful week, the Cambridge group decided to set up an official branch of U3A – which left the Ryans with a problem. It would be too expensive and tiring to travel to Cambridge every week. What they needed was something nearer home.

They contacted Brian Groombridge, head of Extra Mural studies at University College, London. He recruited the Ryans, and it was decided to run a pilot scheme of four subjects – French, English literature, art and art history – which expanded into eight in the second term as interest grew.



Suresh Karadia

Joe and Anne Ryan: an outlet for energy

The members divided the administrative workload among themselves to save funds. "Two or three of us could type, one of two had been office managers. Joe and I licked stamps and answered the telephone," said Mrs Ryan. They also took on the publicity and organized the course timetable for more than 270 applicants.

The London branch of U3A encourages members to take other courses through ILEA, at a nominal charge or for free. Birkbeck College has given U3A premises at a peppercorn rent; the Courtauld Institute is organizing a series of lectures; North London Polytechnic has released Dr Sidney Jones, head of Educational Studies, for a year to administer the courses.

Joe and Anne Ryan are busting with enthusiasm. "It's not just the learning," said Joe. "We've made a whole new set of friends, a new social life. We're setting up exchange groups with the French in Lyons and Grenoble, and perhaps with the USA. We're arranging special membership of cultural societies – the whole thing is growing like mad."

Anne said she thought the most important function of U3A was that "it gives you something to get up for. You've got to brush your teeth, comb your hair, smarten yourself up, get out of the house and *open your mouth*. Some people talk to no one but the milkman from one week to the next."

Liz Jobey

● *Membership fees are £4 per person, £7 for two people living at the same address and £1 for those on supplementary benefit. For applicaion forms, write to Sidney Jones, U3A London, 26 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DQ, or telephone 636 8000, extension 3857.*



THE TIMES DIARY

Open verdict

Doctrinal uncertainty swept the corridors of power in the Socialist Republic of Islington yesterday when news broke of the bloody conflict in Grenada. The north London borough, which is ideologically twinned with the Caribbean island's capital of St George's, was initially unsure whether developments were good or bad. So, when asked her views, Margaret Hodge, leader of the council, decided that the best form of defence was attack. She immediately lambasted the Conservative-controlled Margate council, which is twinned with Yalta, for not condemning the shooting down of the Korean airliner. Islington's twinning arrangement, she emphasized, involved giving practical help to Grenada, such as shipments of old library books and second-hand dustcarts.

Heal thyself

Lord Young of Dartington, the man who conceived the Consumers' Association, the National Extension College and other good things, tells me he is about to deliver another brainchild – an offer to sick people by the College of Health, in return for a £10 subscription, of courses in health education, the structure of the NHS and patients' rights. Accompanying this worthy scheme will be the launch of a weekly health magazine, *Self Health*, covering everything from diets to alternative medicine. "I feel we are cashing in on something big", Lord Young enthused.

● *Ursula Andress, immortalized on film as a starlet with a wet blouse, has emerged on the other side of the camera. She spent a week on the photographers' pit at the Paris collections working for an Italian magazine and found herself more the object of attention than the models on the catwalk. She took a dim view of the Paparazzi interruptions – until one of them showed her how to change a film.*

BARRY FANTONI



'Funny, I don't remember him at Cambridge'

Forever Young

Canon Edwin Young has retired after 10 years as chaplain of the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy and the Royal Victorian Order. The 500-odd couples who were married by him have been invited to his retirement party at the hotel next week. They will miss him; so devoted was he to his couples that he sent every one anniversary and Christmas cards during his tenure, and all were invited to a St Valentine's Day service and reception annually. Canon Young is poised for a second career as a "pre-dinner" speaker, famed as he is for his witty, bespoke graces, and has an autobiography in the works.

Pas de ballet

Left-wing MP Tony Banks' plan to irritate the Government and balletomanes at one fell swoop by bringing over the Bolshoi Ballet for a performance exclusively for the proletariat has fallen through. Banks, chairman of the GLC's arts and recreation committee, planned to sell tickets to an audience not normally seen at such occasions, through organizations such as housing and pensioners' associations. But the trip, opposed by Downing Street, has been cancelled. "It became too much of a hot potato," said one involved in the talks.

Literary package

Jorge Luis Borges, everybody's favourite Argie, is guest of honour on Frank Delaney's BBC 2 chat-show to be broadcast on Monday; but his choicest remark remains unrecorded except in this column. As the video cameras rolled, Bruce Chatwin stood up to introduce the great man "He's a genius", burbled Bruce. "You can't go anywhere without packing a Borges. It's like taking a toothbrush." Offstage, Borges was heard to mutter (between clenched teeth, presumably): "How unhygienic!".

Channel 4 is acquiring admirers. The 300 Group, which is pressing for more women in Parliament and elsewhere, has awarded Jeremy Isaacs and his current affairs head, Liz Forgan, an accolade "for consistently giving significant coverage on a fair and equal basis to women in politics". Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, who did more than any other prime minister to promote women to important political posts, according to the group, will be on hand when the award is presented at the Commons on November 14. Isaacs should be doubly pleased; not only has he a new gong for the mantelpiece but the comfort of knowing the group has been watching his controversial channel. It all adds to the ratings

PHS

The Mirror: Labour's love lost?

Much speculation over the proposed sale of the *Daily Mirror* has centred on the identity of the chairman of the new company. Sir Alex Jarratt, the chairman of Reed International, the owners, has said it would be someone acceptable to both the City and the Labour movement, and today, Clive Thornton, head of the Abbey National Building Society, is expected to be presented as the new chairman. But after the sale of Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) the job could be irrelevant.

The parent group has decided, unlike Trafalgar House when it "demerged" Express Newspapers, to retain no financial interest in its subsidiary which might prevent a future takeover.

When the company makes its Stock Exchange debut, a new chairman acting as chaperon will be unable to fight off the attentions of corporate suitors, not all of whom will have honourable intentions.

In other words, whoever the new chairman and whatever the constitution of his board, a takeover bid would be perfectly possible from a company which might take the papers smartly to the right. The only sign so far of disquiet has been informal discussions between Neil Kinnock and senior editorial figures at the paper. A belated letter expressing concern from a member of Labour's National Executive has also been despatched. It is gradually dawning on Labour leaders that the flotation could be potentially dangerous.

The first point at issue is whether Labour really considers the *Mirror's* fragile allegiance important. If so, and one supposes this to be the case, what can be done to ensure its continued support?

There are two ways the company, as currently envisaged, may be protected from an alien political infection. The first – and the most important, according to Leslie Carpenter, chief executive of Reed International – is the weight of opinion among *Mirror* staff. But it is not at all certain that the unions at the paper would take industrial action to protect the paper's traditions. How many of its employees are so committed to Labour that *they would strike in a political* cause?

Senior journalists who objected to a new proprietor with right-wing ideas could find themselves emasculated or be golden handshaked to the door.

The second possibility would be for the unions to take a stake in the new company. This idea has attracted some support, but it could be impracticable. For a start, the new MGN is likely to have a price tag of more than £100m and a controlling interest would therefore cost more than £50m.

Even an appreciable strategic stake of between 5 and 10 per cent would be expensive. And where would the cash come from? Arthur Scargill has already suggested that the National Coal Board pension fund, on which the National Union of Mineworkers has a 50 per cent representation, should invest in the company. It might occur to other union leaders that other pension funds with strong trade union investment could follow suit.

But Mr Scargill's relationship with the NCB fund is known to be at best brittle and trustees will baulk at taking a shareholding which could be interpreted as politically motivated.

Any suggestion that the finance could come from unions' general funds will find little support among executives seeing membership dwindle and cash evaporate. One hope, of course, would be that any eventual predator would take the form of a socialist millionaire. A rare breed; possibly extinct. The most likely candidate must automatically be Robert Maxwell, the publisher.

Clearly the subject will be raised at the next general council meeting of the TUC. One of its tasks will be to appoint a committee to look at the financial viability of a TUC newspaper at a cost of £7m.

The attractions of such a venture, however slight, are likely to be greater than the accumulation of a shareholding in a company whose policies it will be unable to influence.

One of the answers to Labour's professed need to retain a foothold in Fleet Street is to start an immediate campaign to build safeguards into the constitution of the floated company before its Stock Exchange debut. One such guarantee would be for voting shares to be held in trust. Thus only non-voting stock could be bought, which in turn would be of interest only to investors and not to predators.

However, if Mr Kinnock deploys this argument at any future meeting with the Reed board, he will be told that investors will pay less for non-voting stock and that they would receive less for the flotation. Reed International, it will be said, is not a charity.

The company has been prepared to hunt for an acceptable chairman, and it will be prepared to make sure that, in the first instance, anyway, shareholdings are spread thinly – but it will not be prepared to see its subsidiary undervalued.

Reed points out that any right-wing capitalist seeking to buy the *Mirror* would find his ambitions under scrutiny by the Monopolies Commission, whose brief is to "protect the public interest". Whether political as well as commercial monopoly would be considered sufficient reason to block the bid is another matter.

Barrie Clement

Lawrence Freedman on the battlefield numbers game

Short-range steps towards peace

Four years ago the first volleys were being exchanged in what has turned out to be the most intense debate on nuclear weapons since the Second World War. A group of Nato planners was then reported to be proposing the introduction of new US cruise and Pershing missiles into Europe. Soon President Brezhnev weighed in with the first of many combined Soviet offers and threats designed to stop the programme. Nevertheless, after a couple of months of hectic political activity Nato agreed, in December 1979, to endorse the missile proposal. Four years later, the preparations are almost completed and the missiles will soon be arriving.

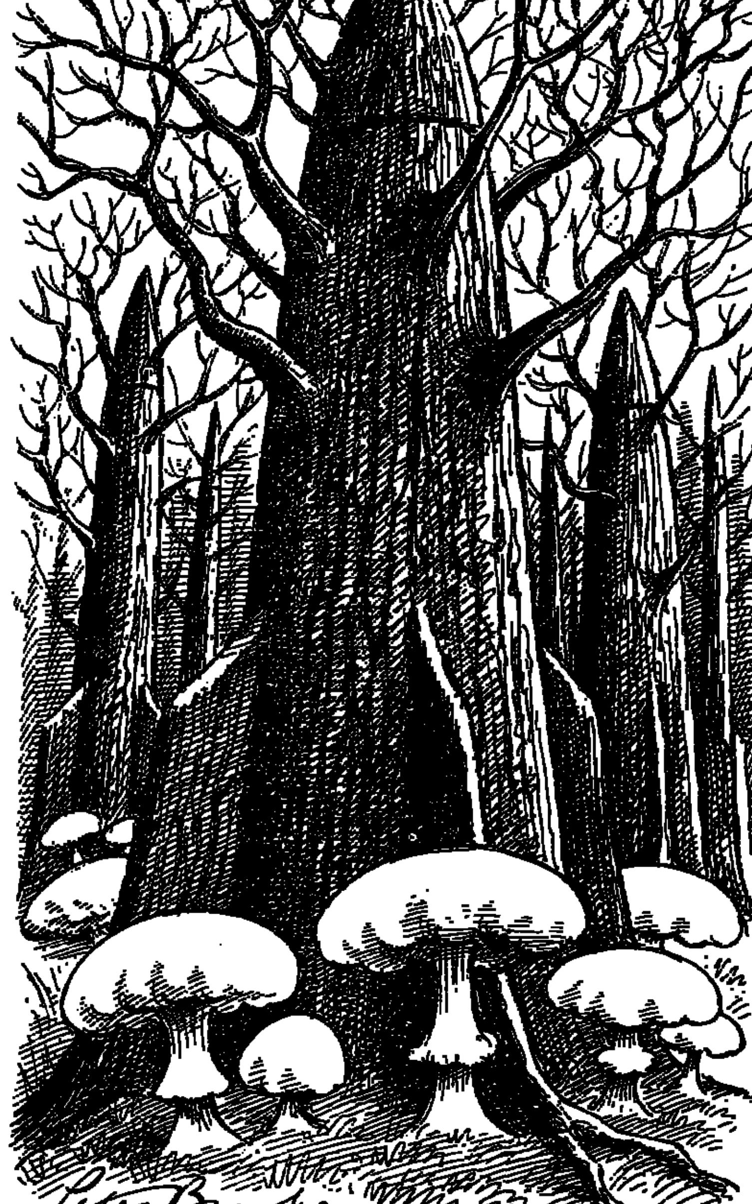
The same group of Nato planners, known as the High-Level Group, is now completing a report on another set of US nuclear weapons in Europe. These are short-range artillery shells, gravity bombs, offensive and defensive missiles and even mines. Unlike cruise missiles, which can attack Soviet territory, they are designed for use against fairly close military targets on, or just behind, the battlefield.

There are many similarities with the earlier situation. A group of expert officials is working without any publicity on politically-loaded proposals for its masters, at a time when increased Soviet activity in comparable missiles is reported. Many proposals are being put forward in the Pentagon for the modernization of Nato's stockpile. Moreover, short-range weapons are potentially more controversial than long-range because they are more numerous, and more likely to involve use on Nato territory: and the rationalebehind them is much more questionable.

They have long been criticized for creating the illusion of a nuclear military option, able for example to halt a tank invasion, while in reality any use would merely start off full-blooded nuclear exchanges earlier than would have otherwise been necessary. To use them effectively would require early authorization to "go nuclear", but Nato's consultative procedures quite properly ensure that would be delayed before any request for use were answered.

The last time, Nato tried to improve its short-range arsenal was in 1978 with the "neutron bomb", or the "enhanced radiation weapon" as it is known in Nato jargon. So great was the furore then that President Carter decided to hold back production.

Not surprisingly after all that they have been through with the cruise missile debate, Nato leaders are reluctant to agree to yet more weapons projects. Apart from anything else, these are the sort of nuclear weapons operated by European forces under dual-key arrangements. So the political issue would not simply be whether to permit their presence with US forces but whether to buy any new systems. For this reason, the improvements agreed may, despite the Pentagon's urgings, be largely incremental – better safety features, command and control, and possibly longer range.



Most significantly of all, the principal change will probably be to *reduce* the Nato stockpile by as much as one third – from a stockpile of 6,000 weapons to 4,000 – mainly by cutting out weapons considered unimportant. Such a move will surprise and even encourage those who believe that the alliance is capable only of adding to its arsenal and that it can never cut back. To long-standing critics of these weapons it at least represents a move in the right direction. What difference will it make in practice?

Opponents of the cuts contend that it is unwise to give up any capability when the Soviet Union is adding to its nuclear forces. They claim that there is no need now to offer the short-range weapons as a sort of political sacrifice for the *cruise and Pershing missiles*, because after the British and West German elections the success of the long-range programme is reasonably assured. Any cuts now should be in return for a notable improvement in conventional forces or in elements of the battlefield nuclear arsenal that will remain.

Against this, it is pointed out that Nato's past promises oblige it to remove a certain number of weapons, on a one-for-one basis, as the cruise and Pershing missiles arrive. For reductions beyond the 572 such missiles proposed, it is hopeless to rely on arms control because this is a notoriously difficult area in which to negotiate: East and West stockpiles are not at all comparable, the distinction between nuclear and conventional capabilities are rarely clear-cut, and verification may be impossible. So all Nato can do is look hard at its stockpile and make a strategic judgment on what it really needs.

It is hard to find anyone who believes that the number of weapons *is anything but excessive. In* practice, the proposed reductions will not make much difference to Nato's nuclear options. The only systems to be removed will be Nike-Hercules air defence missiles and atomic mines, neither of which is considered usable. Systems such as artillery pieces capable of taking nuclear weapons are unlikely to be decreased in number, to ensure that the widest number of Nato countries can in principle be involved in nuclear operations. All that will happen is that there will be less nuclear ammunition to pass around.

So the proposed reductions are really radical only when compared with past practice. For Nato planners they at least provide a policy on quality, distribution and type in an area where previously only numbers were seen to matter. They allow the alliance to improve its public image, and create a valuable precedent for unilateral cuts. They break a strange sort of symbolism surrounding the stockpile level which used to be taken, in the absence of any more compelling rationale, as a statement of the degree of US commitment to the defence of Europe. And they point Nato in a direction that has been advocated by many defence experts as well as arms controllers – towards lessening Nato's dependence on nuclear threats.

If at the end of this month the alliance decides to move in this direction it may not be a large step for mankind but it would still be quite a big one for Nato.

The author is Professor of War Studies at King's College, London.

David Watt

A Falkland chance too good to miss

Buenos Aires

In a week's time, Argentina has its first election for nearly a decade. To anyone interested in politics it is a fascinating struggle in its own right: low-keyed by Latin American standards but grim and likely to be very close. To the British observer, however, the overwhelming question is whether democracy is going to produce a government any more likely to settle the Falklands question on reasonable terms than the *bitter and embattled military* regime now bowing out.

The answer, like almost everything else in Argentina, is enveloped in clouds of rhetoric and emotion. After last year's defeat, Las Malvinas is more than ever the most obsessive issue of national honour. Jorge Luis Borges's remark that the dispute was like two bald men fighting over a comb is no more welcome in Buenos Aires than it is in Downing Street. Mrs Thatcher is the figure (outside Argentina) that *everyone most likes to hate*. And even the arrival of as inoffensive a person as myself in Buenos Aires has been denounced in recent days by "the Veterans of The Malvinas" and others as grossly insulting.

Nevertheless the answer is still a qualified yes. It is clear from the conversations of their closest advisers and from the logic of events that each of the principal contenders for the presidency – Italo Luder, the Peronist frontrunner, and Raul Alfonsin, the Radical Party challenger – is beginning to look for a settlement of the *Falklands* dispute and, given any real encouragement from the British side, would approach discussions in a more realistic frame of mind than any Argentine government since the 1960s.

In the first place, the military junta is for the moment discredited and demoralized. It is regarded with a contempt that is open, complete and unpunished. The reasons for this collapse go beyond the war to today's economic shambles in particular, but there is no doubt that the war is generally considered an unmitigated disaster. All connected with it are in public disgrace. Nicanor Costa Mendez, Galtieri's Foreign Minister at the height of the crisis, for instance, has been unable to secure the backing of any party to run for the Senate or even the House of Deputies.

The hindsight consensus even among people close to the junta is that the use of force was an error of principle which misjudged not just the British but other Latin American countries, the Americans and the Europeans; did untold damage internationally, and wrecked already shaky finances.

Starting from this point the main political parties are now toying with conclusions. One prominent Peronist put it this way: "We have three possible courses of action. One is to do nothing – but public opinion will demand movement and all they have seen on the contrary is the British consolidating a huge base on our doorstep. That is a recipe for more foolishness, not now perhaps, but later on. The second possibility is to Malvinize our foreign policy altogether – to make everything dependent on the issue. This would more or less mean throwing in our lot with the Soviet Union and Castro and the non-aliged movement, perhaps reneging on our foreign debts. This, too, is foolishness, though there are some who want it. Very well, there is nothing left but to negotiate with the British and to mend our fences with the US and Europe."

In that case, would a new Argentine government be prepared to declare a formal end to the war? The answer, after a certain amount of legalistic prevarication, is that if Argentina declared peace, it would have no satisfactory ground for pressing the Brazilian and Uruguayan governments to deny the British transit facilities to the Falklands. And since this is one of the main levers the Argentines have against Britain, they would be mad to throw it away without a *quid pro quo*.

What would the *quid* would be? Some gesture from the British that indicated they were not intending to build up a huge and permanent strategic base on the island as soon as communications were made easy for them to do so. Perhaps a reduction in size of the exclusion zone, it is suggested, would be a start.

And what, Mrs Thatcher always scathingly asks, would negotiations be about? The Argentines reject the present British preference (assuming *talks were started at all*) for settling relatively harmless questions about commercial relations and the like first. They can foresee Mrs Thatcher pocketing the preliminary agreements and stringing them along for another 17 years on the sovereignty issue. So far as they are concerned this is the crux of the dispute and they insist on it absolutely.

But the war has changed things to the extent that the party politicians and their advisers now seem ready to reexamine fairly long leaseback solutions on Hongkong lines, to envisage international guarantees for the islanders both before and after the "lease" expires and finally to fudge the question of whether talks can start at all without the presupposition of Argentine sovereignty – the point on which the discussions of 1982 finally broke down. Why, they ask, can we not embark on negotiations on the basis of the formula agreed to by British and Argentine officials in 1968 which said, in effect, that the UK would recognize Argentina's sovereignty *but only when the British* government had been satisfied that the islanders' interests were secured?

The truthful reply is that a lot of blood-stained water has flowed beneath the bridge since then and Mrs Thatcher is not ready to go back to the pre-war position as if nothing had happened in the meantime. But the question is well worth thinking about, all the same. Time, after all, is not on the British side. And by that I do not just mean that pressure for negotiation from the US, our European partners and the UN, will become increasingly insistent or even that the cost of Fortress Falklands will continue to mount alarmingly.

The point is that anyone surveying the scene here in Buenos Aires is bound to conclude that the establishment of this new government will provide a climate for negotiations that is unlikely to recur.

With the appalling problem of the Argentine economy and the lack of any widespread Argentine predis*position in favour of democracy* over dictatorial forms of government, the chances of either Luder or Alfonsin serving a full term without another military coup are probably no better than even. Nevertheless, a settlement ratified by democratic processes is more likely to last from one regime to another than a military fiat; and a democratic government which settles the quarrel with the British is more likely to survive. If we could take a long view of our interests and those of the West, we should explore a precious opportunity without too much delay.

Philip Howard

Fact: fiction is not just ephemera

Daily newspapers seldom publish fiction, except by accident; and then the decent ones tend to publish a correction. It would be agreeable to have the space to publish a short story, or poem, or an extract from a novel every day. In practice the daily avalanche of news, criticism, comment, information, reader service and features leaves no room for serious fiction. (One could write a tendentious monograph demonstrating that news is a kind of fiction: the good end unhappily, the bad happily; that is what *news* means.)

And I dare say that the majority of our readers, with 20 minutes in which to read their papers while they are jostled and pushed eyeball to eyeball up against complete strangers on the Central Line, do not have the time or the concentration to read the hard stuff of creative writing, or whatever unsatisfactory epithet you give it.

Nevertheless, it *is* the real thing. The work of our poets and novelists matters more and *will last longer* than the little disturbances of the news. Discovering a good writer is far more exciting than discovering a new painting or a new city.

There are signs that the news about new fiction is catching on. For some time *Granta* at Cambridge has been spreading the word and making money by publishing new creative writing with Penguin. And next week the latest *Fiction Magazine* comes out.

You don't need to be Einstein to work out that it will consist mainly of fiction, to assuage the appetites of us addicts who cannot wait until the next novel. Short stories by Maggie Gee and Russell Hoban are firmly rooted in London. Saul Bellow sets his in Chicago; and George Mackay Brown in the Orkneys. Where else, for either of them? Well, quite a lot of places, but that is another story. Joshua Smolinski (investigating the death of the novel: prime suspect, Italo Calvino) finds himself located somewhere within the wild imaginaton of his creator, Clive Sinclair.

The magazine was founded a year ago with a grant of £3,000 from the Arts Council, which still pays its contributors its minimum rate (peanuts). It is carried on by the generosity and enthusiasm of lovers of fiction; like my friend and colleague Philippa Toomey, who has just lent it a bit of her inheritance to keep the presses turning.

In its brief life it has published some notable scoops that turn other literary editors green with envy. There was a delightful interview between Ishiguro and Timothy Mo. And the issue devoted to new Irish writing, including all the pros and the prose of previously unread stars, was a notable coup. Cries of jealousy and admiration from Webb and Tomalin and other literary editors could be heard a mile away from Fleet Street.

The magazine's editor, Judy Cooke, sees its prime function as discovering and introducing new writers, and providing them with a regular platform. It can keep the links between writer and reader in the long wait for the next novel, or the long gap between hardback and paperback publication.

I can see that commercially it is a fairly dicey project. How many people want to read fiction, for Jane's sake, when they can read politics, gossip, crime, and all the other raw material of life in the daily press? Well about 10,000 an *issue* at present, mainly buying their quarterly dose in the newsagents such as W.H. Smith and Menzies, sneered at by the *bien-pensants*.

It is a deplorable development. And we had better keep quiet about it. If word got out that reading the best writing by our brave new writers was more fun even than reading newspapers, it might catch on. And that would never do.

Princess Diana, Groucho Marx — Christine Keeler, Harold Macmillan — Lord Longford, Hedy Lamarr



Asquith, Humphrey Lyttleton

Surprising sprigs on the family tree

Did you know that Mrs Thatcher was related, not only to her hero Sir Winston Churchill, and her economic Antichrist John Maynard Keynes, but also to James Callaghan, Shirley Williams, Jo Grimond, Clement Attlee, William Ewart Gladstone, Bubbles Rothermere, the Aga Khan, King Peter of Serbia, Kim Philby, Lord Vestey of Tax Avoidance, the Kaiser, Barbara Cartland, the Duchess of Windsor, John Profumo, Aristotle Onassis, Donald Maclean, Bertrand Russell, Sir Oswald Mosley, Sir Stafford Cripps, George Orwell, D.H. Lawrence, the Queen Mother, and Nigel Dempster?

Quite frankly, neither did I.

Did you also know that the Princess of Wales was related to Dr Stephen Ward, Lord Lucan, Neville Chamberlain, the editors of *The Times*, the *Daily Telegraph*, and *The Observer*, Max Hastings, Hughie Green, Dirk Bogarde, Brigitte Bardot, Patty Hearst, Clark Gable, Groucho Marx, the Shah of Iran, Unity Mitford, Richard Burton, Senator Edward Kennedy, Anna Ford, Marilyn Monroe, George Melly, Dylan Thomas, Vita Sackville-West, the pardoned Jimmy Boyle, Tony Benn, Frank Sinatra, and Nigel Dempster?

I didn't either, but the conclusion is inescapable. The Prime Minister is related to the Queen. Close observers of the former assume from her demeanour and carriage that she has secretly known this all the time.

The relationship, it must be said, is distant – as it is said to be every Tuesday evening at the regular weekly audience – and the blood test has yet to be invented which would prove the link. Nevertheless there is a thread, more tortuous even than Ariadne's ball of string in the Labyrinth, but unbroken provided you step outside the normal rules of genealogy and are prepared to build bridges across brothers-in-law and second marriages.

For establishing the link between Queen Regnant and Queen Presumptive I am indebted to Andrew Barrow, a young man who has set out to prove that everybody who ever appears in the gossip columns is in some way related to everybody else whose name appears therein, and has drawn up a family tree of the famous and the almost well-known, published this week as *The Gossip Family Handbook*.*

Mr Barrow is impeccably qualified to undertake such a task. His wife is the second cousin of the brother-in-law of Miss Sara Keays, who has recently been making the newspapers.

Who would have imagined that Richard Ingrams, the editor of *Private Eye*, is related to Sir James Goldsmith? Or Jack Profumo to Harold Macmillan? Or Lord Longford to Hedy Lamarr, the first actress ever to grace the silver screen with nakedness? Or Lady Docker to Graham Greene? Or Denis Thatcher to his stage persona, John Wells? Or Anthony Blunt to Prokofiev?

Pointless, frequently bloodless, but fun.

It is all a good deal more entertaining than *Burke* and *Debrett*, if less scrupulously attentive to the descent of blood. Traditional genealogy, which would quickly establish a direct blood connexion between, for example, Viscount Whitelaw and Disraeli, goes backwards. Only by going sideways can Mr Barrow establish a link between Sir John Gielgud and Jane Fonda, Herbert Asquith and Humphrey Lyttleton. I suppose he could ultimately join us all up, given the time and a large enough sheet of paper.

The next edition will be even better. Owing to a recent marriage undertaken by the modestly well-connected Mr Reginald Bosanquet and too late for inclusion, the identity of the former newsreader's new wife's first husband's first wife means, according to Mr Barrow, that the Queen, Mrs Thatcher, Lord Longford, Harold Macmillan, Captain Mark Phillips, Sir John Betjeman, Alistair Cooke, David Dimbleby, the previous Archbishop of Canterbury but one, and every other name on Mr Barrow's Tree of High Life, are all related to Miss Christine Keeler.

They always said she had class, that girl.

Alan Hamilton

**Hamish Hamilton, £6.95.*

Telecommunications

This week's successful launch by a European rocket of a US satellite is balanced by trade union opposition both to moves to break the monopoly position of British Telecom and competition by the private Mercury group. We also look at the new telephones and developments in cable and satellite television.

In the last decade telecommunications and its political control has become an extremely sensitive issue both at home and overseas. The British Government's attempts, which were to begin in 1980, to liberate the British telecommunications industry from the dominance of the state controlled British Telecom – then *part of the Post Office* – were to highlight those sensitivities.

Competition would stimulate the electronics industry, commerce and ultimately the economy as a whole since telecommunications was as important an ingredient in successful business activity as was finance, energy and transport. The advance of telecommunications was a measure of the efficiency of the industries which depended on them. That was the theory.

Despite the political difficulties experienced in the past three years the British Government has remained convinced that the monopoly enjoyed by British Telecom for 60 years must be broken and that British industry must innovate to compete with any threat from overseas suppliers. That foreign competition will be on show next week in Geneva at Telecom '83 (October 25-November 1) where the world's telecommunication equipment designers, manufacturers and suppliers will have their products on show. The British flag is to be flown through a joint effort by British Telecom and the principal manufacturers in the UK – Plessey, GEC STC and TMC.

It is a curious partnership because the relationships between the companies have been subject to a whole series of stresses in the past three years, fuelled by the Government's attempts to encourage the private sector to compete with British Telecom.

The first moves were made by Sir Keith Joseph, then Secretary of State for industry, who in 1980 outlined the blueprint for a new approach to telecommunications and one that would be the envy of the world. No longer would the British market be dominated by the state. Other suppliers would be able to provide services and the customers would benefit by being able to buy their telephones from whoever they chose.

The theory was flawless but the reality something different.

The vehicle for that transition was the British Telecommunications Act which became law in July, 1981. It not only split the postal and giro side of the Post Office from the telecommunications arm of the corporation, creating British Telecom, but it was to empower the Secretary of State for Industry to award licences to commercial interests wishing to compete with the state corporation.

By February, 1982 a licence had been granted to one such commercial enterprise, Mercury, a consortium of Cable & Wireless, BP and Barclays Merchant Bank. The trade unions led by the Post Office Engineering Union which represents more than half of the employees of British Telecom was never keen on liberalization because of the danger of a flood of foreign imports, but declared its opposition to the Mercury consortium and vowed to oppose it in any way possible.

The whole liberalization policy however had got bogged down. Small manufacturers wishing to compete in equipment supply were to complain constantly that British Telecom which played a crucial role in determining whether products were technically acceptable was not responsive enough and the time delays were unacceptable. Independent suppliers were to be further annoyed and the Government embarrassed by the expansion of British Telecom into new areas of business activity covering the complete spectrum from the supply of advanced business systems to cable television.

Although it had been discussed for some time, the reality was inescapable. British Telecom itself should be put into private hands, allowing it to grow and modernize at its own pace with freedom to raise the necessary cash from the city.

That meant another round of legislation, a new British Telecommunications Act. It would have been law had it not been for the timing of the general election. Its passage although never seriously threatened in the House of Commons was to be troublesome. Even some Conservative backbenchers, *stalwarts of privatization* and opponents of state control, were worried about the dangers which might face rural telephone subscribers. The new British Telecom was to be a commercially driven company, so would emergency and rural services be cut to the minimum in pursuit of maximum profits?

The industry itself was dissatisfied and is still not content. Sir Keith Joseph had emphasized in 1980 that no foreign company would be given a licence to supply equipment to the British market unless the application was accompanied by assurances that would result in "real reciprocity". The idea was simple but politically naive. Joseph was soon to find that the constraints imposed by the rules of the EEC and GATT meant that he could not protect the home industries if he liberalized the market. There has been no avalanche of foreign goods on to the British market but these are early days.

The flagship of the British telecommunications industry, System X, was to flounder badly in foreign markets. The system originally designed to be used at home and to attack the markets of the old commonwealth was having trouble competing. A marketing group set up in 1981 to promote the product overseas was proving ineffectual and had only manged to complete one sale which was to a British company-Cable & Wireless which bought a small £2m exchange for installation in the West Indies. By the beginning of this year the partnership which designed and built the electronic exchange had broken up. Standard Telephone & Cables (STC) withdrew from the consortium, leaving Plessey, GEC and British Telecom. The marketing company was disbanded and its responsibility divided between Plessey and GEC.

But the liberalization policy was still being pursued albeit modestly. The breakup of the telecommunications giant American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) and the sale of its local operating companies meant that the United States market was going to be more competitive. Britain should follow suit. Moves by the Japanese to privatize Nippon Telephone and Telegraph *(NTT) and possibly break it up* into local operating companies were to convince the Government that it was on the right road.

The major suppliers to British Telecom-STC, GEC and Plessey – were not convinced that the strategy was right since the corporation still had a dominant role. They requested, through their trade association, that the amount of equipment which British Telecom should be allowed to supply be limited to a fixed quota. They ideally wanted the corporation barred from the supply of any equipment. They compromised for a quota – and got nothing in the end.

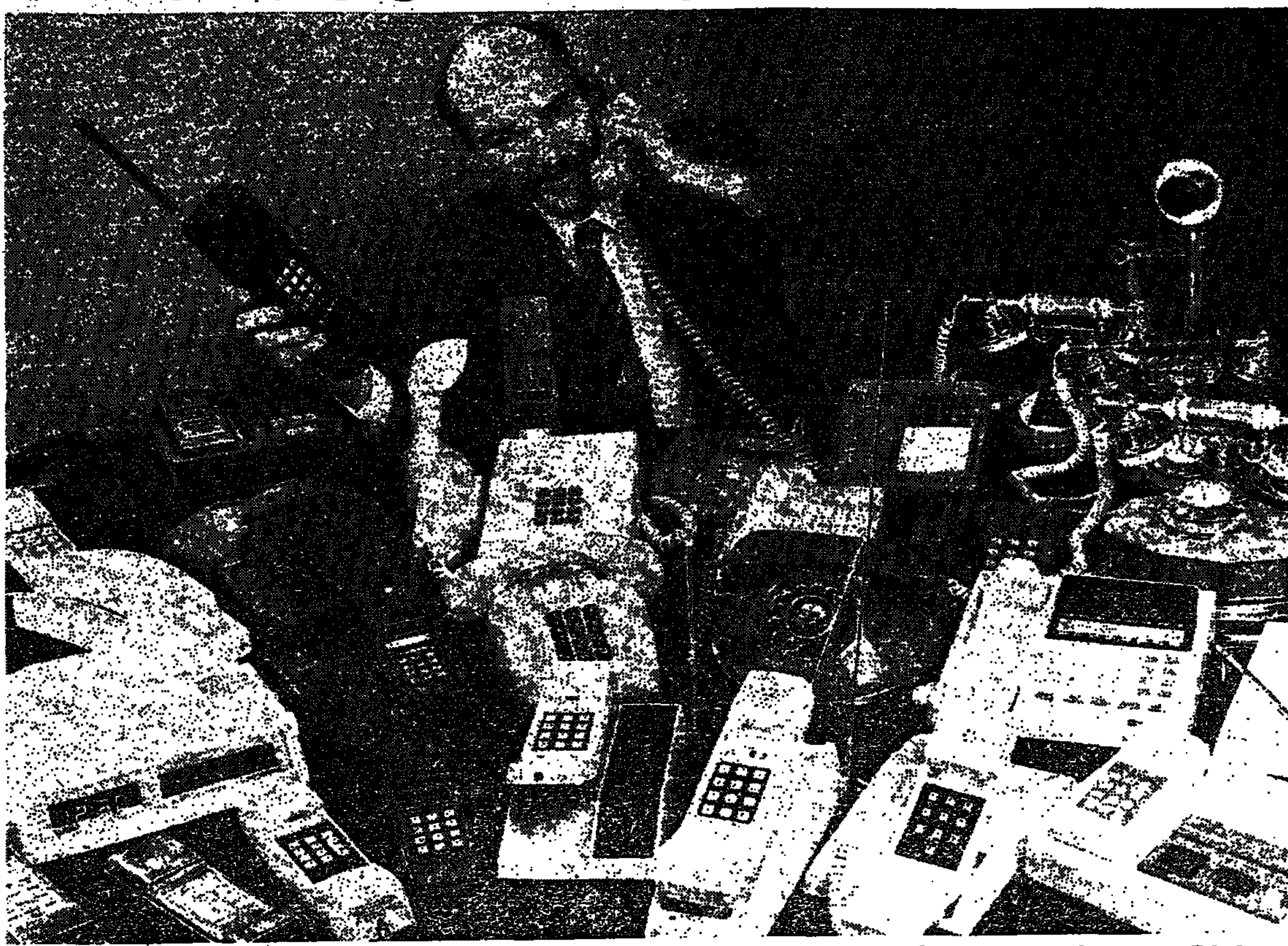
But the development of satellite transmission and cable television in the United States had caught the imagination of the industrial advisers to the Cabinet Office.

More than £85m a year is now being spent by Britain on research development projects on space. The monies are culled principally from the resources of the Department of Trade and Industry and the Science and Engineering Research Council. About 75 per cent of that funding is spent through Britain's membership of the European Space Agency (ESA). In Britain the design and manufacturing capability on satellites and the necessary electronics is spearheaded by British Telecom, British Aerospace and Marconi.

Cable television has been given approval for expansion despite many months of argument between the Home Office, which views itself as guardian of *the broadcasting airways*, and the Department of Trade and Industry which is committed to stimulating the electronics industry and will use any vehicle to that end. A Cabinet Office report, prepared by the Information Technology Advisory Panel (ITAP) and published in March 1982, called for approval to be given to the early expansion of cable television. One third of a multichannel system, typically 10 of 30 channels, ITAP claimed were to be devoted to services such as shopping, banking, voting and a whole range of services on these "home telecommunication" networks. The Government is presently deciding which 12 applicants from a batch of 37 will be given the first franchises for multichannel cable television in Britain.

A new telecommunications market stimulated by the breaking of British Telecom's monopoly, the expansion of cable and satellite will be created in Britain but how much of that can be commanded by British suppliers only time will tell. The exhibits at *Telecom '83 will give them a* taste of that competition.

Bill Johnstone
Electronics Correspondent



Give somebody a ring! Both British Telecom approved and non-approved equipment now available. Robert Swains, who runs the Empecey Telephones concession at Selfridges, London, has more than one hundred telephones and answering machines on offer. Picture by *Heini Schneebeli*

BT dominant, and growing stronger

British Telecom is a company in transition. It has been since the Government's announcement three years ago that the British telecommunications market was to be liberalized and the corporation forced to compete with the private sector.

Under the astute chairmanship of Sir George Jefferson, BT has been divided into profit centres, with each responsible for its own schedules, productivity and even advertising budget.

The change, though far from complete, has disturbed many manufacturers in the telecommunications industry and even some Conservative backbenchers who supported the Government's policy.

On the industrial side the discontent stems largely from those who have witnessed BT confidently expanding its activities, word-processors, microcomputer systems and cable television expertise. BT is still a dominant force in the telecommunications market and there is every indication that it will retain that status for many years.

Its modernization programme, now in the region of £2,000m a year, makes BT the most attractive customer in the UK telecommunications industry. Suppliers ignore its wishes at their peril. That influence, many in the telecommunications industry maintain, makes a mockery of the Government's policy on telecommunications.

It is that influence, if the Government's intention to sell 51 per cent of the corporation is implemented, which is disturbing many MPs of all parties, including some Conservative backbenchers.

The new British Telecommunications Act will become law during the next session of Parliament. That will transform BT into a private company whose shares can be disposed of by the Secretary for Industry. He intends beginning that disposal next autumn.

The anxious MPs are frightened that the corporation will be transformed from being a publicly-owned monopoly to a privately-owned one with little accountability to government.

The fears have been allayed by Government assurances that BT must abide by the conditions outlined in a licence to be awarded by the Secretary for Industry. This licence will be the subject of heated debate from both sides of the House, particularly from members who want to be confident that emergency services, rural telephone services and telephone kiosks will still be provided and properly maintained.

The corporation is a political hot potato and will continue to be so even after privatization. It is that factor which has worried the Treasury, the Department of

> **The sheer scale of the proposed BT issue is another major problem ... Fifty-one per cent of the company would be worth at least £5,000m. The flotation of one tranche of such size on the market may prove to be impracticable.**

Trade and Industry and the City advisers who are masterminding the sale of the corporation's shares. Will a corporation constrained by a restrictive operating licence, requiring it to provide non-economic services from profits in other areas, be an attractive proposition for investors? Will these responsibilities and the political outcry every time there is a tariff increase discourage future investment?

The sheer scale of the proposed BT issue is another major problem. The company has yet to be valued. Depending on the accountancy convention used, the company's assets vary between £10,000m and £16,000m. Fifty-one per cent of the company would be worth at least £5,000m. The flotation of one tranche of such size on the market may prove to be


Profit-maker: BT chairman Sir George Jefferson

impractical. The sale of more than one tranche is unsatisfactory since it would produce further uncertainty about the time of the next.

The corporation would still be state owned and constrained in its commercial borrowings until 51 per cent was owned by the private sector. Selling shares to subscribers and placing shares on foreign exchanges may provide the answer.

The new telecommunications authority to be created by the forthcoming legislation, will monitor the British telecommunications industry and BT.

It is still uncertain whether BT's role as telecommunications representative of the government is to be altered. Britain is a member of the European Space Agency (ESA) with which all the European telecommunications authorities negotiate through their joint body, Eutelsat. The coordination between countries is vital in controlling satellite transmissions and standards. If, however, Britain is to have several companies – Mercury and more of the same – providing international telecommunication links in competition with BT then someone else. will need to represent Britain at the satellite table.

Despite political rhetoric to the contrary, BT's role in cable television will be substantial. Apart from carrying programmes between cities, from one local station to another and leasing cable to local operators who have no cable of their own, the corporation has agreed to join nine consortia which have applied for cable television franchises as a full partner.

British Telecom is and will remain a dominant force in all aspects of the UK telecommunications industry.

BJ

New network's mercuric rise


Intriguing developments: Derek Evans, Chief Executive of Mercury

Pictures by Robin Laurance

When Mercury Communications received a licence in February 1982 to build a privately owned national network competing with British Telecom, it was obvious that a new era was about to open in this country's telecommunications. But just how far-reaching the changes would be was much less clear.

To many observers, it seemed likely that Mercury would gain most of its traffic from large business users who wished to send streams of data at high speed over leased lines from one company location to another. Today, the picture is very different.

Mercury's licence allows it to offer a switched service, for both voice and data, putting the company on a par with British Telecom as a national carrier. Mercury has also overcome a number of hurdles to gain the freedom to operate as an international carrier as well.

The next step could be the extension of Mercury's services to the private telephone user, providing a true alternative from top to bottom of the telecommunications market.

Shareholders in Mercury are Cable & Wireless and British Petroleum, with 40 per cent each, and Barclays Merchant Bank with the remaining 20 per cent. These three partners have to date put up £89.6m – money which has either been spent or is firmly committed.

Apart from funding the venture and having non-executive directors on the board, the three shareholders play no direct role in running Mercury. One aspect of the original Mercury announcement which caught the public imagination was the scheme to use optical fibre cables running along British Rail tracks.

The main snag was that using BR's trackside in this way could have resulted in liability for Development Land Tax. That problem has now been resolved satisfactorily, and in September an agreement was signed with BR which allows Mercury to go ahead with its initial plan for a figure-of-eight network, centred on Birmingham.

The southern loop will take in London and Bristol, and the northern loop will connect with Leeds, Manchester, and Stoke-on-Trent. There will be smaller subsidiary loops, and when the full figure-of-eight is complete by 1985 BR can expect payments from Mercury of more than £2.25m a year.

Mercury did not wait for the agreement with BR before ordering optical fibre cables. In July contracts worth about £8m were placed with GEC Telecommunications for 120 miles of cabling, and with BICC

Mercury COMMUNICATIONS

Telecommunications Cables for 320 miles. Plessey Telecommunications will act as subcontractor for opto-electronic equipment.

As well as placing the orders with British companies, Mercury has given a fillip to advanced technology by choosing monomode fibre, rather than the multimode type.

Monomode fibre gives a better all-round performance. At present, optical fibres for the British trunk network can have a carrying capacity of 10 Megabits per second (Mbit/s), but Mercury plans to upgrade performance to 560 Mbit/s per fibre.

Another advantage of monomode technology is that the regenerators which boost the signal along its route need only be spaced at intervals of 25 km (15½ miles). A 140 Mbit/s system using multimode fibres requires regenerators every 8-10 km (5-6 miles).

While it is pursuing the high-technology route with optical fibres, Mercury is meeting immediate demands for service with microwave radio. Links are already operating in London using roof-top dishes for line-of-sight communications, and the first connexion between London and Birmingham will be achieved with a chain of six microwave sites.

This inter-city link should come into operation before the end of this year, together with the Birmingham city service.

After that it should be optical fibres all the way for the United Kingdom network. The London to Birmingham microwave link will be replaced by fibres late in the third quarter of 1984. By the end of next year, there should be optical fibres linking London to Bristol, Birmingham to Manchester via Leeds, and Birmingham to Bristol.

The initial network will be completed with an optical fibre link from Manchester to Birmingham via Stafford in the second quarter of 1985, and a London optical fibre ring should be in place a little earlier.

Local distribution to customers' premises will be by radio, using cellular techniques which help to conserve frequencies. Before long, though, some city subscribers may be able to connect to a cable network.

Agreement on wayleaves is the key to this development. Mercury is keeping quiet about who it might be negotiating with, but there are obvious candidates. The tunnels of the London Underground and the now-disused network of London Hydraulic Power are just two possibilities.

For international communications, an agreement was signed with British Telecom International last December giving Mercury access to space segments on satellites where BTI acts for the UK as a whole. Since then, Mercury has taken steps to secure links of its own.

It has booked capacity on Intelsat V, which is due for launch early next year, and also on the French Telecom-1 satellite, which is expected to be in orbit in the autumn of 1984. On the ground, Mercury has ordered its first earth station from Marconi at something over £2.25m, and this may be sited close to Oxford Airport.

At the simplest level, Mercury will offer cable TV companies trunking facilities to send material from one local operation to another.

Already Mercury is talking to the companies which are seeking cable TV licences, and offering some form of partnership which would exploit the house connexions, which will have already been cost-justified for entertainment services.

The really exciting developments for Mercury still lie in the future. At present it is offering only leased lines, and its operations are limited to London. As the network develops switched services will become practicable, possibly at the end of next year. Traffic should then build up as more cities are linked into the system.

Will Mercury succeed? The company believes that once the service is there the customers will appear, perhaps in vast numbers. The three shareholders have so far staked nearly £90m on the belief that these predictions are right.

UK core network
Leeds, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Liverpool, Manchester, Warrington, Sheffield, Chesterfield, Crewe, Stoke-on-Trent, Derby, Nottingham, Stafford, Burton-on-Trent, Wolverhampton, Tamworth, Birmingham, Coventry, Rugby, Worcester, Northampton, Milton Keynes, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Hemel Hempstead, Watford, Swindon, Bristol, Didcot, Slough, Bath, Chippenham, Reading, London

Mercury's planned optical fibre network running along British Rail tracks

Roger Woolnough

The union at the centre of the row

The engineers' unlikely quarrel

Unions in the telecommunications industry have found themselves in the unlikely role of leading the attack on the Government's plans to cut back the size and influence of the public sector.

In the vanguard of the campaign – against both privatization of British Telecom and the opening up of competition by the private enterprize Mercury group – is the traditionally moderate Post Office Engineering Workers' Union.

The union has for years been part of the right-wing bulwark of the TUC now in the ascendancy. Although its membership remains essentially conservative the leadership swung dramatically to the left in elections during the summer, with the result that the campaign of industrial action is now being pursued with renewed vigour.

The campaign of "guerilla" action intensified this month, involving more than 1,000 engineers in BT's international telephone exchanges. Management has retaliated with widespread suspensions, and by moving senior managers into three exchanges in what was described as a "military-style operation".

A left majority on the union executive contains an influential grouping of Militant Tendency supporters, but there is little sign of dissatisfaction among the membership with the leadership's tactics. Ordinary members may not share the executives ideological opposition to privatization, but they are worried about job security and the future of the industry.


Bryan Stanley

A special conference of the POEU in September decided to look for further ways of bringing pressure on the Government, although the actual strategy has been left to the executive. That strategy has now unfolded, with the union taking action in areas which will have the most impact on BT's lucrative business and international traffic.

It is linked to continued action designed to disrupt Mercury's operations as fledgling groups starts their full-blooded competition for the business market which provides BT with a large slice of its profits.

The target for action against Mercury has been its three shareholders – Cable and Wireless, Barclays Bank and British Petroleum. Members have been instructed not to respond to BT requests for repairs at their head offices, and in turn, BT has suspended engineers obeying union instructions.

POEU members are also refusing to carry out any work which links Mercury's circuits to BT equipment and so far the link-up work has been done by managers. The union is seeking the support of other unions and is reminding TUC affiliates of the decision taken at Blackpool in September to carry out a concerted joint campaign against privatization in any industry where jobs were threatened.

BT now employs about 240,000 people and the POEU fears that many thousands of jobs are likely to disappear as telephone exchanges become more mechanized. Privatization of BT would give an added impetus to job losses, union officials fear, and they argue it will also lead to a reduction in the quality of service to the customer.

The six telecommunications unions spent more than £500,000 to promote their message in the first union campaign against the Telecommunications Bill, which ran out of time when the General Election was called in June. The only real industrial action during that campaign was a one-day strike in October in which three of the unions particiated and since then the POEU has effectively been on its own in adopting a militant posture.

The best indicator of the POEU's determination to take on the Government, however, in what is an overtly political dispute, is likely to be its attitude to the legal action

Continued on page VI

The big temptation to shop abroad

British Telecom began hinting that the liberalization of the telecommunications industry would not necessarily mean a bonanza for British industry earlier this year. Mr Charles May, BT's director of research, first sent a shudder through the telecommunications equipment industry when he explained at a private meeting in March that if BT became a private company it should buy most of its equipment from abroad. He said that given the choice he would personally recommend that more equipment was bought from Japan, Sweden and Germany.

Subsequently his thoughts were reinforced by Sir George Jefferson, chairman of BT, who said that there was much room for improvement from the British industry. He indicated that as a prelude to privatization BT was considering shaking up its traditionally cosy relationship with its main British suppliers, GEC, Plessey and STC. Although BT still takes about 80 per cent of its equipment from the big three, Sir George made it clear that BT had already begun talks with IBM, ITT and American Telephone and Telegraph about importing large quantities of United States built telecommunications equipment.

Later BT denied that its official policy would be to buy from abroad.

However the comments are deeply embarrassing for the Government which originally dreamed that the privatization of BT would open up huge new markets for telecommunications equipment for British industry.

When the Government first mooted the possibility that BT would be privatized it took the view that a host of new entrepreneurial companies would spring up to take advantage of the new markets, particularly for customer equipment, that would be created once the BT monopoly ended. The United Kingdom market for customer equipment is estimated by consultants, PACTEL, to be worth about £230m this year. The market splits five ways with £100m of orders available for small private exchanges (PABXs), about £50m of orders for large PABXs over 100 lines, a £30m market for special telephones, £20m market for key systems and a £30m market for other equipment including fascimiles, answering machines and peripheral telephone devices.

But the original strategy which was designed to shake BT's cosy relationship with its traditional suppliers by providing market opportunities for British firms is not working in the way that was originally intended. To date very few new products have reached the market from private industry.

The established suppliers like GEC, Plessey, STC and TMC are more concerned about BT's threat to buy major items of equipment from abroad than the additional competition provided by a new breed of companies entering the customer equipment market. Ironically those new companies which have been established are tending not to compete direct with BT for customers. Instead they are tending to compete for work with BT which still has dominant position in the supply of telecommunications service.

BT has also made it difficult for the smaller companies at local level by responding quickly to the changed marketplace. BT has established 61 regional profit centres to deal with the problem which are able to supply both the basic telecommunications service and customer equipment. In addition BT is building a close relationship with ICL, Britain's leading company to offer a new range of products in office automation.

The market for both small and large PABX's has attracted most attention from new companies hoping to take advantage of liberalization.

Merlin a small company in Gloucestershire, backed by £1m from the City investing institutions, is one company which has braved the problems to take on the giants of the industry. It is offering subscribers a new small digital private exchange in one of the first moves to break the traditional BT monopoly in the supply of such equipment. Others who have joined the fray include Small Systems Engineering, while BT is maintaining its competitive edge by continuing to offer its smallest exchanges like GEC's Senator and TMC's Ensign, which serve as few as four extensions for about £1,000.

Progress has also been hindered by the delay in establishing technical standards for the new exchanges by the British Standards Institution in conjunction with industry. A number of interim measures have been agreed to speed up liberalization but the delay in setting proper standards means that the real benefit for liberalization in this area will not be felt until next year. Even then buyers are advised not to buy equipment for a few years at least by which time standards will be agreed and there will be true competition and lower prices in the marketplace.

In the meantime Plessey and GEC have both decided to import some PABXs until they have time to develop new systems of their own.

More progress has been made in introducing cordless telephones. The Home Office allocated frequencies for cordless phones earlier this year and the first legal products came onto the market in the Spring. Fidelity Radio, which launched a new cordless phone in conjunction with BT in April estimates that the UK market for the phones could reach one million units a year by 1987. In 1984 Fidelity is looking for a market of about 200,000 units. The latest cordless phones cost about £170 each and employ a small radio link which allows the handset to be used up to 600 feet from the main telephone.

Fidelity has been followed into the UK market by Plessey, Answercall Geemarc and Answerpieces, which are all British manufacturers meeting the Govenment's stipulation that the equipment should be made in Britain as soon as possible with a high proportion of British parts. Fidelity plans to produce about 170,000 cordless phones each year from its factory in West London, while Conversation Pieces, will initially assemble a Hongkong designed phone at its Cheltenham factory and will manufacture about 25,000 phones each year.

The ambitious estimates of demand for the new phones stem, in part, from BT's estimate that there are currently 200,000 illegal cordless phones in use in Britain which contravene Home Office rules on wavelengths.

The other major potential market for British companies is the relatively simple production of products like fancy telephones, where companies like Conversation Pieces and Astral Telecom are making some headway. Small private companies are also making items of equipment like telephone printers, answering machine and extension phones.

What the Government has yet to discover is whether liberalization will eventually lead to more jobs and a better deal for the consumer, or whether BT's dominant position will be used to squeeze British companies by using its new found freedom to buy from abroad.

Ready to ring: production line at Plessey

Andrew Cornelius

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Putting expansion on the line

Business systems

Business systems as an annual market is in Britain now worth well over £200m, and growth rates as much as 20 per cent a year are being anticipated. As sales volume grows prices are still tumbling, although more sophisticated equipment is constantly being launched to add to the expansion.

This explains the scramble by so many companies to sell both hardware – the machines and gadgets – and the software programing material.

There are around 30 key suppliers of business systems equipment, with many more creeping into the market usually with more peripheral products. About 10 are spending heavily on television advertising to spearhead their promotional drives, and even more have extended campaigns in the printed media, especially the colour magazines.

Among the jostling names are those of companies like IBM, ICL, Wang, NCR, Commodore, Apple, ACT Sirius, Olivetti, Prime, Data General, Hewlett Packard and Tycom. Software producers like Peachtree have been aiming at a high profile.

One of the latest organizations to join the promotional fray is British Telecom's business systems subsidiary, Merlin. It has been taking television time as well as other media advertising exposure to try to persuade bemused businessmen that it is possible to sell computers and other business systems in plain English.

Bemusement is understandable with so many products on the market. One of the problems is the creation of common standards so that easy compatibility among computer-based products can be achieved, something which could give considerably more impetus to market expansion.

Too-quick obsolescence is a typical worry among companies contemplating new systems. Modular systems, which can be expanded with additional and more sophisticated equipment as a company's demands grow, provide a partial answer to the problem.

Within the industry the expectation is that prices are likely to come down by anything from 10 per cent to as much as 20 per cent a year for the next few years. The tendency with products of comparable performance is to have prices clustered fairly closely although manufacturers may shift out of line from time to time so shopping around is sensible.

But the priority for any business is to get the right software package for its own special needs. Mr Nicholas Staveley, head of marketing services at BT's Merlin division, said: "From that point of view the hardware is not as price-sensitive as it would otherwise be. Even though prices will come down it will not necessarily mean businesses will be spending less.

In the professional personal computer sector, which since IBM's entry into the market has shed its plaything image, prices could come down by 10 per cent a year for the next few years, according to some trade forecasts.

These computers, providing high-density workstations for the executive for around £3,000, have more than doubled their worldwide sales this year. Dataquest, the market researchers, suggest that the worldwide market could go from £6bn this year to more than £34bn by 1987.

Electronic typewriters are selling at an annual rate of around £70m while traditional typewriters, mostly electrical, are worth just under £12m a year, according to trade estimates.

Word processors, including those with full page capacity (a sub-sector worth about £9m a year), have annual sales of about £70m. Shared workstations probably add another £20m in sales. About the same annual sales value is attributed to personal computers with text processing, including hard-copy printers. Various add-on components to the electronic typewriters are thought to be selling at a rate of more than £5m a year.

In these fast-moving markets there are obvious overlaps in definition. Nevertheless, taking account of the growing contribution of software, a business systems total market in Britain of £200m is probably a conservative estimate. Some in the trade believe the annual value is now nearer £300m.

In the desk-top business computer market prices can be as low as £600 to £1,000. But typically companies are spending around £7,000 on a new system, according to Mr Staveley at Merlin.

People in the market will probably continue to get closer to the problems of different types of business and software and hardware packages suitable for a particular industry are now being created. The latest example of this is the Modulas system for retail travel agents, designed by Tourism Technology and backed by the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA). ABTA has just concluded an exclusive United Kingdom sales and service deal with BT's Merlin division.

It is a modular system allowing for expansion, and caters for everything from single-outlet agencies to the big chains. The main price range is from just over £5,000 to rather more than £12,000, including all the specialist software.

Systems appealing to other large groups are now in prospect. In agriculture co-operative marketing has already taken hold. The medical sector is another possibility. So are other professions and trades where specific software programmes could be produced to meet their special needs.

The next generation of personal computers is likely to be able to operate with a wide variety of software from most manufacturers. A screen with multiple "windows" could have separate applications running in each window. In software the main thrust is expected to be towards ease of use by the executive at the workstation.

Electronic mail systems are expected to develop further with direct terminal-to-terminal messages.

Videoconferences are another likely development, following the growing adoption of sound-only systems which employ microphones and a telephone link. British Telecom has a couple of videoconference systems on trial and plans an extended trail involving some 20 companies.

DH



Engineers working on a microwave dish providing data links in central London.

New phones should be cheaper

By the end of this year a wide variety of private telephone equipment will be on offer in Britain as the number of manufacturers competing in the market increases substantially. The sharp competition is expected to push prices down.

The new generation of electronic equipment can also more readily carry the growing volume of data communication which is becoming the hallmark of the electronic office.

British Telecom offers a number of private exchange systems for offices with between four and 36 extensions. Other suppliers in or about to enter this sector include Ansafone, Intercom Communications, Shipton Communications and Tie Communications as well as the more familiar big companies such as Plessey.

Several North American companies are increasing their presence in the liberalized British market. These include Canada-based Northern Telecom, which plans manufacturing expansion in Britain, and Mitel, another Canadian company. Mitel, recently opened a factory in Wales.

New generation exchanges offer many advantages including the ability to re-route calls within an office, and for extensions to take incoming calls direct and for calls direct and for *calls to be referred to particular extensions.*

DH

After Mickey Mouse how about Snoopy?

Now British Telecom is no longer the sole supplier of telephone equipment in the home competition is bringing a flood of new products into the shops – and some possible confusion for the householder.

Rent or buy? That is one question. There is also the proliferation of new equipment from telephones that remember numbers – and dial them at the push of one button – to the cordless sets which are now starting to be approved. Automatic redialing is becoming another feature.

How about a Snoopy phone shaped like the cartoon character? That is a new addition, after the Mickey Mouse phone, to British Telecom's own offerings in the sector known as decorator phones which also include the various antique and decorative chinaware styles.

More of what the Americans call fad phones, exploiting the more passing fashions like the latest sci-fi here, could be on the way. The United States, with a more mature free market in telephones, has seen a rash of fad phones.

Harrods, which like other retailers has been stocking an increasing number of telephones as demand has increased, now has 20 different models on offer. British Telecom itself has nearly as many. One Danish model at Harrods, which stores addresses as well as telephone numbers in its memory, costs £461.

A cordless phone now approved for use in Britain, the Wanderer made by Fidelity, a British company, is selling at £223 in Harrods. It can take calls or dial them out through the base telephone at a distance as far as 600 feet. Some rather more expensive cordless phones on offer, but not yet approved for British use, have a range of up to seven miles.

Cordless phones link to the main base telephone by radio and are powered by batteries which either need replacing with a quick-fit cartridge or more usually have to be recharged about once a week.

The slowness in approving cordless telephones for the British market is largely because of possible problems with creating interference with other users of radio bands. Home Office regulations have to be met.

The only other cordless phone approved so far is British Telecom's own, the Hawk, which is also manufactured by Fidelity. It is being priced at around £170 and is likely to be sold outright by British Telecom rather than following the normal practice of offering a rental deal as an alternative to buying.

Making a decision as between renting or buying depends to some extent on the costings for specific instruments. Take British Telecom's feature phone, the Sceptre 100, which incorporates a clock, read-out of a call made, a numbers memory and a re-dialling facility as its main features.

It can be bought for £79.95 and there is an optional phone-care service costing £1.35 a quarter from November 1 when some charges are rising.

On rental if the Sceptre is used as the main telephone there is a common connexion charge of £30 with quarterly rentals of £2. If used as an extension phone the quarterly rental is £4.75 from November 1 but without the initial installation charge.

The Snoopy phone, a new addition to British Telecom's decorator phones. There are also antique and chinaware styles

The Statesman, a flat-lying phone in the modern style with press button dialling, can either be bought for £35.95 (with optional phone-care service) or, if it is the main telephone, there is a £17 connexion charge with no quarterly rental. As an extension it attracts a quarterly rental of £2.75 from November. All the selling prices include Value Added Tax.

There is another complication. The extension telephones of approved design come with jack plugs. (Approved telephones display a green circle sticker, non-approved a red triangle. The non-approved should not be connected to British Telecom installations. That could mean rapped knuckles or even the loss of the telephone line.)

British Telecom will install jack plug sockets. It costs between £25 and £28 for the first from November and, if the work is done at the same time, £12 each for additional sockets. VAT has to be added. Quarterly rentals are being dropped.

Telephones with special features like memories are emerging as fast as designers can come up with new ideas. There is call-barring equipment with which the telephone owner can usually at the turn of a key, bar the making of international calls or long-distance calls within the UK. Those from British Telecom cost £40 to connect and £1 a quarter in rental.

Equipment normally attached to small private telephone exchanges allow call diversion allows a subscriber to programme his or her telephone to divert calls to another selected number. This typically costs £10 for the connexion from November and £25 a quarter in rental. Call waiting equipment allows incoming calls to be marshalled into a queue.

Although 23 per cent of Britain's 20,500,000 households still have no telephone the biggest growth in the telephone market is expected to come from an increase in extension phones, according to British Telecom. Some 14 per cent of households with phones now also have extensions and this proportion is expected to at least double in the next ten years.

The major growth will be in cordless phones, according to a new survey Home Telecommunications by Mackintosh International, the consultants. As an annual market cordless phones are expected to grow from 30,000 units in 1982 to more than 780,000 units in 1987. By then feature phones are expected to be selling at 250,000 units a year.

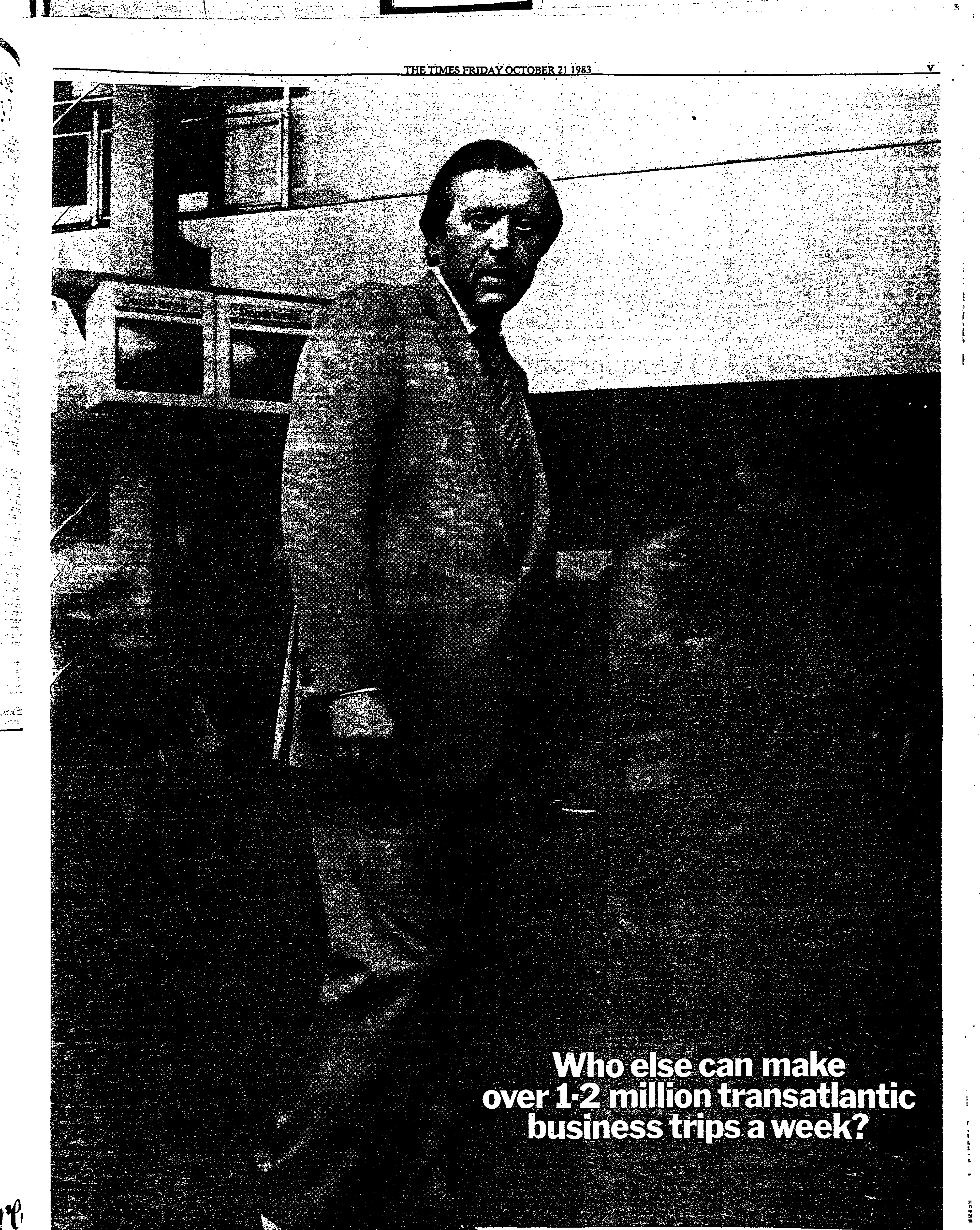
A number of companies are developing cordless phones for the British market. One of the stipulations for approval of cordless phones is that their manufacture brings advantages to Britain as with employment. Among the companies developing cordless models are Plessey, Answercall, Conversation Pieces, Geemarc and Binatone.

All cordless phones are expected to be restricted for use as extensions at any rate until British Telecom loses its monopoly on primary phones in 1984.

Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

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BTI telecommunications are actually popping across the water over 7,000 times every hour of the day and night.

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Or you could come and see us at "Telecom 83" in Geneva. (If you see you-know-who in the departure lounge, give him our regards.)

BTI

British TELECOM International – The International Division of British Telecom

Engineers on the attack

Continuing from page II

aimed at stopping the disruption started by Mercury.

The company's writs, based on the Government's labour laws, call on the union and its general secretary Mr Bryan Stanley to rescind instructions to members taking industrial action. It is ironic that Mr Stanley is named, because he has been less enthusiastic about the campaign than his executive.

Official TUC policy is to ignore the legislation and the POEU executive might be expected to follow that line, although it would risk leaving union funds open to sequestration by the courts.

Union officials accept that there is little chance of changing the Government's mind on privatization, although they believe they can cause sufficient difficulties to make BT an unattractive proposition when the time comes to float 51 per cent of its shares on the stock market next year. The union is also convinced that it can cause real frustration to Mercury's hopes of securing a 3 per cent segment of BT turnover.

The battles over privatization and Mercury are being conducted while the six telecommunications unions are desperately seeking ways of rationalizing their own organization through mergers and membership transfers. The process involves long drawn-out negotiations and a willingness to bury longstanding rivalry between technical and general unions.

A Communications Council aimed at producing closer cooperation between the unions was set up under the auspices of the TUC, with the long-term objective of a single union for the industry. However, progress has been painfully slow between the two main unions – the POEU with 132,000 members, and the 200,000-strong Union of Communication Workers.

There has been a move towards a merger between the Society of Telecom Executives and the telecom membership of the Society of Civil and Public Servants. It was thought earlier in the year that the Civil and Public Services Association's 40,000 members in BT would transfer to the POEU, but the right-wing CPSA executive has now gone cold on the idea.

The Communications Managers' Association has very few members left in BT, so it would seem obvious to hand those members over to the POEU. The POEU also has about 6,000 engineers working in the Post Office, while the UCW (formerly Tom Jackson's postmen's union) has about 40,000 members in BT who are mainly women switchboard operators.

It is in areas such as these when exchanges and transfers of members seem the obvious route, that old prejudices and rivalries prove to be serious obstacles. Each union has its own traditions and heritage and is loathe either to give them up or to dilute them.

All are agreed on the need for a single union and the consequent strength of numbers in an industry where there is a closed shop, but historical differences are likely to take many years to overcome.

David Felton
Labour Correspondent

Number please? How 80 years have changed the face of the telephone exchange







Boys operating a telephone exchange at the turn of the century, and right, a woman operator with headset and speaker. Centre, System X, Britain's newest digital exchange.

The super switch that is failing to connect

Four years ago at the international telecommunications exhibition in Geneva (Telecom '79), Britain launched its new generation System X digital telephone exchange on the world market. Hitherto much maligned, it became a star of the show. The newly formed international marketing company looked set to conquer the world and reverse Britain's rapidly declining share of the world telecommunications market.

Next week sees the opening of the next of these major events in Geneva (Telecom '83). Sadly, it will not be a time to celebrate System X successes. In the harsh reality of one of the most competitive and demanding of all markets, with the exception of one small order from Cable and Wireless for an exchange to be installed in St Vincent in the West Indies, System X has not achieved a single export sale. In that same period telecommunications administrations (PTTs) and operating companies around the world have ordered millions of digital lines of competitive systems developed by foreign companies.

The digital public telephone exchange (or more appropriately, telecommunications switch) is the key element in the new so-called information technology age. The world market for telecommunications products is currently of the order of £34,000m a year and is growing more quickly than in most other manufacturing industries. But, above all, it is a leading high technology area in which it is vital for Britain to play a major role.

The world's telecommunications networks have developed over the last century, primarily to provide a means of analogue voice communication in which varying frequencies corresponding directly to the sound waves generated by speech are carried through a network of wires, cables, radio links and electro-mechanical switches. Recent new developments in microelectronics have provided both the technical and economic means to begin replacing this analogue network with new electronic digital systems.

Digital communication enables any form of information – voice, data or images – to be represented and passed through the network in the form of groups of coded digital pulses. Such digital systems offer many advantages over analogue systems in terms of technical performance and cost, but beyond these considerable advantages they represent the beginnings of a fundamental new phase of information exchange.

The new digital networks, and in particular the digital exchanges, are products of a convergence of the technologies of communications and computing. The computer, in the form of the microprocessor, has made it possible to process and store, at an ever diminishing cost, vast amounts of complex information which could not be handled by conventional means.

Computers within the digital exchange not only handle all the complex switching, control, accounting, subscriber services and maintenance functions, but also "talk" to computers in other exchanges, in data bases, in subscriber telephones and terminals.

Within the next decade much of the old analogue network will have become the new integrated services digital network (ISDN) and many of the humble telephone sets will have been replaced by computer-controlled work stations.

Nearly 300 calls a second

One recent analytical study concluded that in the 1990s some of the larger digital ISDN exchanges will be required to handle nearly 300 calls a second.

The cost of developing a complete range of these switches, from a small rural exchange with about 100 subscribers up to the large international gateway exchange with hundreds of thousands of connexions, has become prohibitive to all but the large companies.

Philips put the cost of such a development programme, including adaptation of the switches during their life and to meet foreign market requirements, at about £1,000m. Yet despite this high entrance fee, at least 20 companies in North America, Japan and Western Europe are in the business.

So why has System X not succeeded internationally, and what is it future? Technically there is little to indicate that it is not as good as, and in some cases much more advanced than its competitors. It failed overseas for two main reasons. First, the marketing effort just simply wasn't good enough. While competitors were selling from the drawing board and offering greatly reduced prices to secure a market foothold, the British companies were holding back, waiting to make sure they had everything right before selling, and then reluctant to horse trade.

Secondly, Britain was up against competitors who enjoyed the total financial and political support of their governments. Contracts have often been part of a broader trade deal, often supported by low-interest loans. Presidents and prime ministers have been used to woo customers, and as we have seen in other industries, as well as telecommunications, Britain cannot compete in that league.

System X exchanges are being installed in the UK network. Four installations are now in service in the local network and 46 orders had been placed for local exchanges by the end of the last financial year, serving a total of about 158,000 connexions. Twenty-four System X trunk exchanges are on order, with the first scheduled to come into service in July next year.

In terms of credibility, much hinges on the decisions to be taken in the near future by the Hull Telephone Company and Mercury Communications.

Plessey Telecommunications and GEC Telecommunications now lead the export sales thrust. Desmond Pitcher, Plessey's managing director, remains confident that System X will be a long-term export winner. Much of the System X technology is being incorporated in the next generation digital switch being developed by Stromberg Carlson, a successful US switching company which Plessey acquired last year.

India and China remain high on the list of eventual markets for the British switch, despite our defeat by foreign competitors in the first major round of orders from those countries.

R. J. Raggett
Executive Editor-International, Telephony Publish Corp.

Super telex comes in fast

If any section of telecommunications has an image problem, it is telex. The bulky and noisy electromechanical terminal, the slow speed of sending messages, and the likelihood of transmission errors have all meant that for many people telex has been something to endure rather than enjoy.

Now modern technology is transforming telex. Quiet terminals which closely resemble word-processors are coming out of dark corners and into the secretary's office. Advanced telex exchanges are in the offing, which will make call connexions far more efficient.

And hovering on the horizon is a totally new service, Teletex – a kind of super-telex that will overcome most of the remaining disadvantages of the present service, and lower the cost of text transmission at the same time.

It says a lot for the sheer usefulness of telex that it has flourished in spite of its drawbacks. The number of UK connexions is now around 100,000, and the convenience of being able to send written messages all over the world has led to a rapid growth in subscribers.

The benefits are particularly noticeable for international calls. Telex overcomes the problems of time zones, and can help to iron out difficulties with foreign languages as well. About 53 per cent of originating telex traffic in Britain is for overseas destinations.

For the user, the most obvious recent change in telex has been the availability of new terminals. British Telecom now offers two electronic teleprinters: the Puma, a hard-copy machine made by Trend Communications, and the Cheetah, one of the Perfector family made by Standard Telephones & Cables, which includes both hard copy and a visual display screen.

Both these terminals allow automatic calling, message editing, storage and other facilities, and as they are quiet they can be used in a normal office. BT can also provide a compact receive-only telex terminal called Sable.

Telex is one of the markets where liberalization could have a major impact. Subscribers will be able to shop more widely for terminals, and several companies are offering different types of equipment.

This is not limited to terminals. One British company, Chernikeeff Telecommunications, is supplying several users with an automatic telex message-switching system, which can control a variety of telex and telegraph lines, and be linked with 32 separate terminals. Another firm, ATS (Communications), has developed a visual display unit which



Electronic challenge in chess on Prestel: childs play?

is compatible with telex, and a link between office computers and the telex network.

Modernization of the network is also under way. At present, telex calls are switched by 51 electromechanical exchanges throughout the country, but these are to be replaced with 11 stored program control (SPC) exchanges.

A two-page letter of about 2,000 characters which would take five minutes to send by telex, could travel in only 15 seconds by Teletex.

Like modern main exchanges for voice traffic, the SPC telex systems will offer facilities such as short code selection, call redirection, delayed delivery, store and forward, and automatic alternative routing.

Despite the improvements being made to telex, it still has some inherent disadvantages. Messages are in capitals only, and transmission is slow. Hence the concept of Teletex.

Unlike the limited keyboard of telex, Teletex will offer upper and lower case, special symbols, and foreign characters. Built-in memory will allow incoming messages to be stored while outgoing messages are being prepared. And transmission will be far faster than telex. A two-page letter of about 2,000 characters, which would take five minutes to send by telex, could travel in only 15 seconds by Teletex.

Accordingly, Teletex will be cheap. BT has not yet spelled out likely charges, but in Germany it has been estimated that while it costs about 16p to send a letter for next-day delivery, and the same message by telex costs 78p, Teletex would cost only 7p – for almost instantaneous transmission.

International standards have been agreed for Teletex, and some countries have already started services – notably West Germany and Sweden. Teletex also has the ability to communicate with telex terminals, giving access to the million or so telex users throughout the world – though only, of course, at telex speeds.

Unfortunately, Teletex in Britain seems to be in a classic chicken-and-egg situation. BT hoped to introduce a full national and international service early next year, but is now *playing things down* because terminals are not available. Terminal manufacturers say they are waiting for modems, and anyway what's the point of offering terminals until there is a service?

Meanwhile overseas countries where Teletex has started may gain an advantage. At least one German manufacturer, Triumph Adler, says it is ready to enter the UK market.

Meanwhile, for all its shortcomings, it seems that telex has a lot of life left in it yet.

RW

Cable trials

Anyone plunging for the first time into the world of local area networks must be prepared for a confusing experience.

The concept is simple enough. A local area network, or LAN, is a cable which can be installed in a building or group of buildings, and is equipped with a number of access points. Computers, word processors, data terminals and other equipment can be plugged in and communicate over the cable.

But the ways in which this concept is implemented vary widely. Systems are described as either broadband or baseband, relating to the volumes of data they can carry. Cables can be the simple flat-ribbon type, coaxial cable of the kind used for television, or optical fibres.

The networks themselves can be arranged as a ring, in which data circulate until they find the right destination. Or they can be a "bus", organized as a single cable to which the various terminals can be attached.

Yet again, networks can be organized as a star, with all data being fed to a central point and then directed to the right address – rather in the way a telephone exchange routes conversations. There are even LANs described as a "branching non-rooted tree".

As newcomers to the world of local networks dig a bit deeper they will come across unwieldy combinations of initials: CSMA/CA and CSMA/CD, for example. They may not be much wiser when it is explained that these stand for Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Avoidance or Collision Detection.

But perhaps the most bewildering thing of all is the rash of proprietary networks which manufacturers of computers and other office equipment have introduced. Wangnet, Z-Net, DECnet, ARCNET, Econet – these are just a handful of the LANs being promoted by various companies, and in some cases they have the drawback of giving their best performance only when used with that particular company's equipment.

It was to try to bring some order to the LAN market that Xerox Corporation in the United States introduced Ethernet, with the support of two other American companies – Intel, a leading chip manufacturer, and Digital Equipment, the major manufacturer of *minicomputers*.

The Xerox plan was to attempt to establish Ethernet as a *de facto* standard, and the company has been very free with its licensing policy. There are now many companies producing components which meet the Ethernet standard, and several organizations have nailed their colours to the Ethernet mast, not only for office systems, but also for industrial and educational uses.

International standards

But while Ethernet was promoting its advantages, other moves were under way at more official levels to establish international standards. Local area networks form only part of these plans, which are being carried out by the International Standards Organization under the name Open Systems Interconnection (OSI).

OSI has the aim of allowing information to be exchanged between computer systems regardless of manufacture or geographical location. It's a *complex business*. A reference model of seven layers has been created, with the idea that each layer will build on the one below to make more advanced facilities available.

It will take years before standards are agreed for all seven layers, but LANs are well to the fore.

A British-owned company, Digital Microsystems, has more than 500 of its HiNet local networks installed in this country, and there are more than 2,000 HiNet sites operating throughout the world.

Racal-Milgo, which entered the market with a system called Planet last year, announced recently that it now has more than 2,000 communication connections installed for the system, and orders from more than 20 countries. Business valued at £2.5m has been received, and Racal is planning and commissioning several large systems, with up to 500 devices attached to each one.

For once one clears away all the technical jargon and wrangling over standards, the fact that stands out is that LANs represent a very big market indeed. Tim Holley of Racal-Milgo quotes a forecast by one market research company, IDC, that while there were 3,000 LAN connexions in Western Europe at the end of last year, there will be 30,000 by 1984, and 250,000 by 1987.

RW

Reuters: growing like Topsy

The potential benefits of electronic publishing are easier to spell out than the immense range of possible activities which it may cover. An obvious example is illustrated in the dramatic change in the fortunes of the Reuters international news agency, which is preparing to go public at an expected value of £500m to £1,500m.

The transformation of Reuters from a traditional news agency, unique in its scope of coverage but operating on tight financial margins, to a growth company is due to a judicious application of electronics to publishing. More than 10 years ago the agency began building a computer-based information network whereby news reports filed in any part of the world could be routed automatically to any designated combination of subscribers.

The next step was to use that network not so much for general news but for the dissemination of high-value business information such as financial market prices, to a wider range of customers.

But computer-based systems are not in themselves a magic key through which riches are guaranteed. For instance, the *first* Fleet Street paper to replace hot-metal type setting, a manpower-intensive procedure, by electronic photocomposition was the Mirror Group, now up for sale.

The Press Association is about to embark on a similar course to Reuters but with a very different approach. From the beginning of next year the PA will be offering only a general output of news from the United Kingdom in a service called Newsfile. Subscribers with any Prestel-type of viewdata terminal will be able to dial up the service.

Reports will be available on Newsfile at the same time as they are transmitted over the agency's teleprinter network to newspapers and broadcasting stations. In addition, subscribers will be able to scan through the current file of the previous six days' stories with the option of calling up the first page, before deciding whether to request a hard copy printout of the entire story.

This service brings much closer the day when the customer can create an individually tailored newspaper by choosing items of interest from a list of political, financial, general and sports news, and pressing a button to have them printed out. Another development nudging that idea closer came with the recent introduction by Phillips of a television set with a built-in printer.

Another example of the marriage of telecommunications, computers and electronics in the publishing field was demonstrated last week in the shape of a new system called the Muirhead Electronic Picture Desk.

In the newspaper world the name Muirhead is synonymous with the facsimile transmission of photographs by "wirephoto" from almost any corner of the globe. Its pioneering achievements included the first international transmission of news photographs direct to newspaper offices via satellite. The event was a Royal tour of South America.

The latest Muirhead development has been perfected in conjunction with Deutsche Presse-Agentur (DPA) for the agency's operations in Frankfurt. Local pictures and pictures received from remote offices by telephone or radio links are converted into a digital format by an electronic scanner and stored on magnetic discs.

An operator can then view these pictures on a television monitor, edit them and retransmit them over the network without requiring to work on a photographic copy. According to Muirhead's development engineers, the final quality of a picture should be better than with previous systems because the computer enhances any obvious optical blemishes, and once the image is stored in digital form it is not subjected to successive stages of reprocessing.

The application of computers and electronics to publishing allows firms to retain existing customers by providing a better service.

For instance, newspaper libraries are repositories of a monumental volume of information. Although those of serious newspapers are crucial sources for researchers in politics, the law, social history and economics they are organized in the main to suit the inquiries of journalists.

Converting those warehouses of information into the sort of computer-based data bank from which subscribers could extract only those items of intelligence related to their particular need over a telecommunications link is now possible. The practicality of doing it depends on cost, and that in turn depends on how much of the material in the printed archives is to be converted into an electronically manageable form.

This is a deliberately narrow look at electronic publishing in order to prevent the subject from becoming too diffuse. But it would be a serious deficiency not to acknowledge the great impact that the Ceefax and Oracle-type of services broadcast over the public television networks are having on the ideas of electronic publishing.

Pearce Wright
Science Editor

TERMS TO WATCH

TELEX: International low-speed keyboard-to-keyboard transmission service.

TELETEX: System for conveying documents via data transmission, for instance between word-processors.

TELETEXT: System for broadcasting information over the air for display on special tv receivers. BBC's service is *Ceefax*, IBA's service is *Oracle*.

PRESTEL: BT's national *videotex* service giving text plus graphics information over public telephone network for display on tv receiver or vdu.

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When it comes to telecoms London towers above the rest.

London has been a major centre of telecommunications for a long time now. It's had the well-proven infra-structure of the British Telecom network, with its national and international links, direct and via satellite.

It's had the benefits of years of massive investment in hardware and systems by British and international manufacturers.

And now it has the advantage of an open marketplace. British Telecom – unlike any of its European counterparts – operates in a competitive environment, with all the advantages in product choice and keen service that this brings to customers.

Not only is British Telecom competing – we're ahead!

To find out how we can help your company with telecommunications see us at Telecom '83 in Geneva.

Or call us on Freefone Telecom London. If you're phoning from outside the UK call + 44 272 294324.

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Storm warning for space-age weather news

The simultaneous development of meteorological satellites and powerful computers has improved weather forecasts quite dramatically over the past 20 years. The increased accuracy of medium-range forecasts is particularly striking: today's Met Office predictions four days ahead are as good as those issued for the day after tomorrow when the first American weather satellites were launched in the early 1960s.

However the advance may temporarily be halted or even turn into a retreat over the next three or four years. The growth in computing power is likely to be offset by a deterioration in the quantity and quality of satellite observations.

Europe's present weather satellite, Meteosat 2, was put into geostationary orbit over Africa in 1981; it is expected to stop functioning within a year or so. That would leave an awkward gap until early 1986, when the European Space Agency is due to launch a stop-gap replacement.

This year 17 European nations agreed to spend £250m on a new generation of geostationary weather satellites, to be launched between 1978 and 1990. An international organization called Eumetsat is being created to operate them.

Although Meteosat provides the best continuous observations of the European sector of the globe, the American system of five weather satellites (three geostationary and two polar orbiting) is much more important for worldwide forecasting. Therefore meteorologists are particularly concerned about recent indications that the US Government is looking for big savings in its spending on weather satellites (currently put at $230m a year).

One threat from Washington is that, unless other countries contribute to the operating costs, one of its two NOAA polar satellites may not be replaced. Good observations of Europe (or any other specific region of the world) would then be made every six rather than every three hours.

Polar satellites, which circle the globe at a height of 800 km, give better visible and infra-red images of clouds than the geostationary craft 36,000 km up. They also give "sounding" data – temperature measurements at different levels of the atmosphere. Their disadvantage of course, is that they are not on station the whole time.

The Soviet Union is the only other country with polar orbiting weather satellites. It does not make observations from these craft (the Meteor series) available over the world meteorological network, but they are much less useful than the American data.

Surprisingly, the Russians do not yet have a geostationary weather satellite. However Japan has one (called GMS) on station over the Pacific. And the latest member of the club is India: its Insat communications satellite, which NASA recently put into orbit over the Indian Ocean, also carries equipment for meteorological observations.

Britain's £14m National Remote Sensing Programme, announced this year, recognizes the point: This country will not build its own satellite (though it will contribute to the European Space Agency's ERS-1 ocean-monitoring craft, due for launch in 1987). Instead the Government's policy is to build a world lead in processing data from other countries' satellites.

For example, the National Remote Sensing Centre (at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough) will build up an archive of images from Spot, the land resources satellite which France hopes to launch early in 1985. Spot will be the major commercial competitor to the American's Landsat non-military remote sensing satellite, and Spot-Image, a company largely owned by the French Government, has been set up to market the data worldwide.

Spot has poor infra-red facilities compared to Landsat, but its ground resolution – 10 metres, is better. That will make Spot more suitable for map-making. But the superior definition brings Spot to a sensitive borderline, for it should be good enough to begin picking out secret military installations.

By the way of comparison, it should be pointed out that since the early 1970s, low-altitude American military satellites have been able to pick out objects 20 centimetres across. Under the circumstances, the Third World's growing mistrust for remote sensing is quite understandable.

Clive Cookson
Technology Correspondent



Will cable pay its way?

Within the next few weeks the Government will be ready to announce the winners of the battle between rival consortiums bidding for the rights to set up the first of a new generation of cable television stations throughout the country. Initially the Home Office and Department of Trade and Industry will decide on the award of 12 interim franchises to operate multi-channel cable television systems from next year.

The applicants include familiar names like Rediffusion, Thorn-EMI and Visionhire, which already operate existing cable networks and powerful candidates like British Telecom and Racal. However, many of the consortiums also include unlikely investors brought in to add "star quality" or local appeal. Thus Ringo Starr, the former Beatle, is involved in the Merseyside Cablevision consortium which is pitching for the Liverpool franchise while Raman Subba Row, the former England batsman, has joined Croydon Cable.

The early enthusiasm for the new ventures will soon turn to harsh financial reality for those which succeed. It is estimated that it will cost about £30m to put in a complete cable television system to serve 100,000 homes. The gamble is whether British householders are prepared to pay between £6 and £9 (plus vat) each month for a basic cable service which will offer music, sports and general entertainment channels.

Critics argue that half of the homes in Britain will have video cassette recorders within the next two years and may be reluctant to pay for cable television services. Yet American experience shows that cable operators can make money after five or six years and after that British franchises which can last 20 years could easily become licences to print money.

For its part the Government has done all it can to make sure that Britain has the chance to try out the cable television experiment as quickly as possible, and before European rivals begin to cash in on the new markets which will arise. It is estimated that it will cost between £3,000m and £4,000m to recable just half Britain's 20 million homes. The Government is excited about the employment opportunities that will follow. The construction industry alone could benefit from 2,000 new jobs to lay cable in the first instance. Additional jobs will be created in the cable manufacturing companies such as BICC, STC, Plessey and GEC. After that come jobs in the telecommunications equipment industry, television set companies and among programme makers.

Given the incredible potential offered by the development of the cable television industry, it is remarkable that the subject was essentially a non-issue until the summer of 1981.

Much of the credit for the rapid progress made since then must go to the six-man team of unpaid and largely unknown technology advisers appointed by Mrs Thatcher as her Information Technology Advisory Panel in July 1981. The team which included Mr Michael Aldrich, managing director of Rediffusion Computers and Mr Ivor Cohen, managing director of Mullard, the television set makers, chose to undertake a study of the potential role of cable systems in Britain and the desirability of a big programme of cable installation.

By January 1982 the ITAP report was ready and recommended that the go-ahead should be given for the widespread recabling of Britain as quickly as possible if the full industrial benefits were to be realized. In March a three-man team of inquiry was established under the chairmanship of Lord Hunt to report on the implications of cable for future broadcasting policy. The publication of the Hunt report paved the way for the decision to allocate the 12 interim cable franchises which are up for grabs now, with future franchises to be allocated by a newly established Cable Television Authority which will be created by legislation due to be introduced shortly.

The Government is keen to encourge the recabling of Britain with optical fibres, which use signals transmitted by pulses of light rather than electric current to offer a capacity 11,000 times greater than traditional copper cable of the kind used in most applications at present. But a decision to insist on the installation of optical fibres instead of cable would prove costly in the short term and delay the widespread introduction of cable television.

Consequently the Government will not require the use of optical fibre for some years, preferring instead to wait for commercial pressures to dictate the recabling of Britain. Effectively this means that the most attractive areas of the country will be recabled with optical fibres first in order to build a commercially viable base for further expansion. At the same time British Telecom and Mercury will lay optical fibres on trunk routes, through existing and new ducts, and eventually link the new systems to individual cable networks.

A further development is the expansion of the services provided by the existing cable services to 2,500,000 homes. Operators like Visionhire and Rediffusion had virtually decided that with little prospect of expanding their cable services there was no future investing in the projects. But with the new-found enthusiasm for cable television those subscribers are being offered new services in more than 100 areas.

Although these existing networks will only be able to carry between four and six channels on their old fashioned copper cable, against a minimum of 25 channels on the new system, which use coaxial cable or optical fibres, the operators do stand an early chance of reestablishing a presence in areas which previously had been neglected.

As the optical fibre manufacturers and cable television companies gear up for the new markets which are emerging from advent of the cable television, some sectors of the industry are already anticipating using the know-how they gain in different areas.

In the meantime the cable manufacturers expect that the rewiring of Britain will have gained full momentum by 1987 as the entertainment-led demand for cable services provided by the new cable television services translates into more widespread demand for each house to be linked to a whole range of information and business services, piped via the new cable networks.

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● Installing the new generation of telephone lines requires skills closer to microsurgery than to traditional cable laying. In the picture above, British Telecom technician John Guile joining up two pieces of fibre optic cable beside the A5 in Bedfordshire. Telecom is laying the latest "monomode" fibre between Luton and Milton Keynes. A pair of these glass strands, each thinner than a hair, carries up to 2,000 phone calls.

The ends of the two strands must be lined up to within one twenty-thousandth of a millimetre before they are fused together on Telecom's splicing machine. That accuracy is even greater than a microsurgeon's joining severed nerve fibres.

Opening the skies to satellites

Although for decades it had been the product of the science fiction writer, the satellite is now the most prominent force in domestic and international telecommunications.

Two important lessons have emerged from the United States where the techniques of satellite communication have been successfully harnessed to transmit everything from high speed business data to live television programmes across the continent simultaneously. The "open skies" policy of the US Government has meant that satellite operators now experience little intransigence from government bureaucracy and instead have been encourage to develop the most prolific satellite communications market in the world.

So successful has been the development that even a nervous Europe, protected by their telecommunications authorities, has shown signs of learning from the Americans and developing the technology. The second lesson emanating from the United States is that the satellite industry is an expanding area of telecommunications and is a major source of new jobs. The Space Shuttle is effectively a commercial operation carrying satellite payloads to be placed in orbit.

British manufacturers have not been reticent in responding to the two American lessons, though their progress is extremely modest in relation to that of the United States. However, British Telecom, British Aerospace and GEC Marconi have formed their own company to exploit the technology on the overseas domestic market. The company, United Satellites, will be responsible for building and operating Britain's satellite for direct broadcasting.

About £85m is spent each year by the British on space projects and over three quarters of that expenditure funded from the resources of the Department of Trade and Industry and those of the Science and Engineering Research Council – is allocated to projects under the auspices of the European Space Agency (ESA).

The first recent evidence that the telecommunications of Europe and those in the UK are about to be transformed took place in the second week of this month when the European Communication Satellite ECS-1 became operational. The satellite, launched from Kourou in French Guyana in June on the European space rocket Ariane, will transmit television pictures into Britain (and across Europe where agreements have been made) for reception by operators of cable television networks who in turn will distribute the programmes locally.

Another satellite, ECS-2, is to be launched in the spring of next year and will be the primary satellite, carrying the telecommunications circuit for the ESA members. The ECS-1 satellite is the backup satellite for the system and those television channels currently allocated have been done on a preemptive agreement. That is, they will be cut off if ECS-2 fails so that the satellite can be used by the customers of the primary satellite.

Britain is one of the full members of ESA. The others being Belgium, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Austria, Canada and Norway participate in a number of programmes.

The channels of these ESA satellites are allocated by an organization called Eutelsat, which represents all the European telecommunication authorities. It was Eutelsat which allocated the channels on ECS-1. One channel each was given to Belgium, France, Italy, The Netherlands and Switzerland with two allocated each to West Germany and the UK. A third ECS satellite is expected to be launched in about 1985.

Britain is also one of the 109 nation members of Intelsat (International Telecommunication Satellite Organization) which is responsible for coordinating the world's intercontinental and on some occasions domestic telecommunications using a network of 17 satellites placed in orbit above the Indian, Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. All communication satellites are placed in a "geostationary" orbit about 22,300 miles above the surface of the earth which gives the craft the appearance of standing still in space.

Intelsat using the Ariane rocket this month launches a series of Intelsat satellites. These two ton satellites, called Intelsat V, are capable of carrying the equivalent of 12,000 telephone lines. Now, more than 60 per cent of the world's international telecommunications traffic is carried by the satellites of the Intelsat network. Maritime communication is also carried by the network.

In 1981 an agreement was signed between Intelsat and the International Maritime Organization (Inmarsat) for the lease of maritime communication channels.

Inmarsat has made agreements for maritime satellites with the American company

Agreements fixed for maritime satellites

Comsat for three satellites over the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans and the European Space Agency for craft over the Atlantic and Intelsat for satellites above the Pacific and the Indian Oceans.

But it is the ESA which is spearheading the European satellite drive, although there are independent national projects, principally in the area of direct broadcasting by satellite (DBS).

In the last ten years more than a dozen scientific satellites have been launched by the agency but it is the application satellites – telephony, data transfer and television – which are coming to the fore. In the last three years the satellite projects have included Meteosat-2 (meteorology), Marecs (maritime communications), Sirio-2 (earth observation) and ECS-1 (communications), also L-sat, the largest communication satellite to be built in Europe is due for launch in 1986. The project which is expected to cost over £150m will have a £77m British contribution.

The French are due to launch two satellites called Telecom 1 next year. These are expected to carry telephony and television signals. The German Deutsche Bundespost has two satellite launches planned for 1986 and 87. The spacecrafts will be used principally to carry television pictures.

The major British project is the Unisat, direct broadcasting satellite, due for launch in 1986 carrying two BBC channels. The project, expected to cost over £150m is still a subject of heated political debate. The debate centres around the philosophy of DBS.

BJ

The dreams riding on Ariane

On Tuesday the seventh Ariane rocket of the European Space Agency was launched placing an Intelsat-5 communications satellite into orbit. The event marked the first time a European launcher had carried a US-built payload, and served notice that Europe is ready to challenge the Americans' near-monopoly of space delivery technology.

Just over four months ago the sixth Ariane rocket placed two satellites ECS-1 (European Communications Satellite-1) and Amsat (Amateur satellite) into a geosynchronous orbit 36,000 kilometres above ground. The relief and jubilation of the multinational team of designers and engineers at the tropical launch site at Kourou, in French Guiana, was equal to that of the American space technologists when the United States reusable space shuttle, STS-1, made its first flight from Cape Canaveral.

True, the launches from Kourou attracted a briefer attention from British press and broadcasting services than they would have probably devoted to an expectant panda at London Zoo. But the dreams and aspirations of hundreds of French, German, Dutch, Italian and Belgian scientists and engineers were riding on Ariane L-6 and L-7. For instance, more than 40 manufacturers from 11 countries provided the rocket engines, electronics and thousands of other components needed for each vehicle.

More important, the failure of the fifth launch in September last year was a heartbreaking setback. That flight was intended to demonstrate through Ariane to the increasing number of countries wanting their own satellite for communications, navigation and weather forecasting, that they had a wider choice than the United States and Russia from which to obtain a launch vehicle.

Any competitor to the United States and Russia faces the problem of selling against the vast wealth of technical knowledge accumulated over 20 years. Although the space era opened formally in 1957 with the launch of Sputnik 1, satellite communications turned from theory to practice in 1965 when an 85 pound fledgling known as Early Bird soared from Cape Canaveral to relay up to 240 telephone calls and a television channel across the Atlantic.

Early Bird was built with a life of 18 months. But four years after launch, when a satellite of the new generation of a relay station failed, Early Bird was reactivated to broadcast to more than 500 million people the investiture of the Prince of Wales.

One of the many sources of potential failure lies in the vibration of the rocket at lift-off and at the early stage of flight when the engines are generating maximum thrust. Meticulous precautions are taken to protect satellites from vibration damage.

Rocket launchers are the workhorses of the space programme, and the Ariane series is not the first collaborative European venture. However, the decision to press ahead with the current programme was taken in 1973 after various surveys forecast that by the early 1990s more than 180 satellites would be placed in geosynchronous orbit for communications and direct broadcasting, including 24 for Europe, and many others would be launched for other applications.

Orders for 24 satellites and options for another 15 are worth £36m.

Although there are 11 countries participating in the Ariane project, the largest contribution of 64 per cent comes from France, with Germany providing another 20 per cent. The total cost of development to completion of the first seven launches is over £500m.

After the test flights of Ariane, the European Space Agency has approved the principle of transferring to an organization called Arianespace responsibility for production and marketing of launchers. Arianespace was formed three years ago and its principal shareholders include 36 European aerospace firms, 11 European banks and the French national space agency, CNES, where the designs for Ariane originated. Arianespace has a capital of more than £12m subscribed by shareholders in the 11 countries.

The transition from the European Space Agency to Arianespace was planned for completion by 1984, after which launches would be conducted on a strictly commercial basis.

Arianespace has already taken firm orders for launching 24 satellites and options have been taken out on 15 more, making an order book worth more than £360m. The prospects for using space techniques are influenced by the economic considerations defined most simply as the cost of placing one kilogram of payload in orbit. At the time of Early Bird that cost was about £2,500.

Clearly, useful payloads weigh in many times more than that and the target is to cut costs by about one-hundredth of the early launches. Ariane can place a satellite of about 4,500 kilograms in geosynchronous orbit, or two payloads of equivalent weight.

Despite a perfectly acceptable start to its career by comparison with other launchers, such as those which form the workhorses of the American stable (Atlas Centaur had five failures in the first eight launchers and Titan three failures in six launches), no indulgence was shown to Ariane when it failed. Unfortunately that was the penalty of being a relative newcomer.

PW



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QUIETISTS IN THE CABINET

Undeniably the presentation of the Government's policy for public expenditure has been very maladroit since the election. The guidance after yesterday's Cabinet meeting was that some outstanding details have had to be referred to the so called Star Chamber of three ministers led by Lord Whitelaw, but that otherwise this year's public spending management has fallen into place. That may be no more than a piece of window dressing to conceal the fact that most of the Chancellor's colleagues feel that he and the Treasury have been exaggerating the problem all summer and need themselves to be cut down to size. The more the pity. The Chancellor's position has clearly been aggravated, and therefore undermined, by internal Cabinet politics that will have unfortunate results for the future if ministers prefer the quiet life where public spending is concerned.

The roots of this loss of authority by the Chancellor can be traced to the Cabinet meeting of July 7. On that day, before the meeting, *The Times* published a forecast that Mr Lawson would be demanding cuts of £500 million from departmental budgets. This was necessary to cope with an overrun in the target for this year's spending. It had been caused by an unestimated increase in demand responsive items of expenditure like general practitioner services. Since that could not be controlled, corresponding cuts were going to have to be found in other parts of the budget already covered by cash limits.

The Chancellor's task was clearly made more difficult at that Cabinet meeting where he was quite unjustly blamed by his colleagues for attempting to bounce them into a decision by the use of a premature leak. It was evidently a bruising experience for Mr Lawson. It has left him politically on the defensive, and certainly contributed to the blandness of yesterday's Cabinet meeting which augurs ill for the prospects that this Government will get hold of the issue of public expenditure early enough in this Parliament to give it some economic and political room to manoeuvre.

If inflation is to be controlled and, preferably, reduced there has to be a constant effort to cut down the size of the public deficit. The deficit leads to inflation and high interest rates. Given the colossal momentum of an overall budget of more than £120 billion it is not surprising that ministers wrestle fretfully during the annual exercise to reduce Government spending. Their choice each year is to reduce spending or to raise taxes – unless they are prepared to take the inflationary course and expand the scale of borrowing. As we have seen, a lower rate of inflation has helped the economy to expand. It must be natural therefore for ministers to favour a course of action which reduces taxes and thus contributes to further growth rather than one which controls the deficit by the imposition of more taxation.

The Government is thus faced with a choice of alternative policies, both of which are entirely respectable, but have different political connotations. The quiet life approach, as we have seen this autumn, does not lead to anything like a quiet life for ministers. Any ministerial attempt to rein back on planned, or more often unplanned but inexorable, increases in future spending, is greeted with cries of shame and generally held up as evidence of a cruel Government cutting into existing services. Ministers have thus been on the defensive, and unless they are careful, there they will stay. There is no chance of their being able to capture the initiative in this argument about public spending, let alone winning it, unless they can provide the full facts of the case which make these decisions so difficult now, and increasingly difficult in the future. To that they must add some creative ideas about how these difficulties could be ameliorated. That is still sadly lacking.

The Chancellor is said to be keen to open up this debate so that the whole country can contemplate the future, and measure the implications of a quiet life on public spending, punctuated each year by the agonising ministerial exercise of cutting it into shape, against the possibility of more radical thinking about the mix of public and private provision for all kinds of welfare, perhaps even including the question of the retirement age and the long term mill-stone of publicly financed earnings-related pensions. If the Chancellor receives the Prime Minister's support in this argument, he may prevail against those of his departmental colleagues who, in the Prime Minister's favourite expression, have been "nobbled" by their departments. It is not only Mr Lawson, however, who has yet to discover whether or not the Prime Minister has been nobbled too.

THOSE WHO LIVE BY THE SWORD....

The unfortunate inhabitants of Grenada have been thrown out of the frying pan into the fire. The regime of the late Mr Maurice Bishop had long ago broken faith with its more liberal supporters, who helped it into power. It closed their newspaper, *Torchlight*, and imprisoned many opponents without trial. It put off elections and sought aid from Moscow, East Germany, Cuba and Libya, though also from the European Community. At the United Nations it supported the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. At home it moved towards the Soviet model of a "people's democracy", though without destroying private industry. The economy, poorly managed, wilted under pressures which have buffeted the whole region.

For those who arrested and then killed Mr Bishop, however, the trouble was not too much Marxism but too little. Mr Bishop was accused of being soft on private property and trying to mend fences with Washington, possibly to the extent of wishing to join the Caribbean Basin Initiative. This would have worried the Soviet Union, which probably regards Grenada as a useful strategic foothold at the other end of the Caribbean from Cuba, conveniently near Venezuala and the rest of the South American mainland.

Hence the coup raises two main questions, one about the past and the other about the future. The first is whether Mr Bishop was genuinely trying to move away from Moscow and was unwisely rebuffed by the Reagan Administration. He sent at least two letters to Mr Reagan which elicited only one brief reply. He spent a week in Washington in June and was at first cold-shouldered but then seen by two senior officials.

Had he been warmly embraced and helped as an at least partially disillusioned Marxist, would his policies at home have changed, and would he have been sufficiently strengthened to have fought off his hard-line opponents? Or would these opponents merely have struck sooner? Did they strike this week precisely because he was beginning to make some headway with Washington? We need to know.

The future is equally unclear at this stage. Mr Bishop clearly retained considerable popular support, in spite of his shortcomings. The new rulers will have less support, so their power base will be narrower and their rule harsher. If they take the country deeper into Marxism they will also worsen its economic problems – unless Moscow steps in with non-military aid – a Soviet rarity indeed – sufficient to make up for the inevitable shortcomings of Marxist economics. So the fate of the new regime depends to a considerable extent on decisions taken in Moscow.

Until now Moscow has been reluctant to commit itself as deeply to other Caribbean and Central American states as it is committed to Cuba, which has been a very expensive asset. It rebuffed the Manley regime in Jamaica, and has been cautious about committing itself wholeheartedly to the survival of the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua. But Grenada would be much cheaper to support than Cuba, and in the present climate of East-West relations Moscow may feel it has little to gain from not treading too heavily on Washington's toes. The possibility that Grenada could become a fully-fledged satelite of Moscow is therefore not to be automatically dismissed. Cuba would welcome it, but there will also be strong regional pressure to hold it back.

TASKS AT TRANSPORT

It would be unfortunate if the rapid passage of Mr King through the swing doors of the Department of Transport led the public mind to any downgrading of the ministerial tasks awaiting Mr Ridley once he has mastered his briefs. The department has been indifferently led under recent governments of both parties and while Mr Ridley may be no Ernest Marples he has the opportunity to break that tradition.

Here is a considerable personal challenge. Mr Ridley must not only survive the butterflies of Otmoor (a pastoral site on the proposed route of the M40) but backbench sniping from his predecessor but one (Mr Howell) who has espoused the cause of a rail link beneath the English Channel. The job will require Mr Ridley to abandon the private politics of the Treasury for the public reckoning with vocal interest groups and delegations which will inevitably include Conservative commuters and Gloucestershire rail-users.

The job at the Ministry of Transport is not one for an atavistic privatizer, impressed neither by the managerial progress recently made in the public bus and rail industries nor by our continuing national fascination with the iron roads. There is nothing shameful in the romance of rail or in a mounting disappointment that it is the French or Japanese and not the British who are innovating successfully in train design and track layout. At the top of Mr Ridley's agenda are the joint questions of subsidy for the revenue costs of road and rail services and borrowing allowances for capital investment. Peripheral enthusiasm for selling off Sealink or (at long last) letting entrepreneurs into station catering will not help the minister when, as he must, he persuades his colleagues that British Rail and rural bus networks deserve realistic levels of support in their public service responsibilities.

Of course a tension will remain between public service and the necessity of using commercial criteria to secure efficiency in operations. But Mr Ridley has some winners to back. In Mr Reid, the new chairman of British Rail, he has an astute caretaker who, if he can avoid the industrial relations chaos of two years ago, deserves warm support in carrying out the corporate plan bequeathed by Sir Peter Parker. And if the Serpell report is consigned to a bottom draw, so be it, as long as pressure is kept up on productivity, the ending of restrictive practices and managerial devolution shown at its best in the running of the Inter-City division.

Private money should be introduced not spitefully but experimentally on such schemes as the Victoria-Gatwick link. Concreting over redundant lines may be the end of Victorian civilization, but there is little harm in that: it is noteworthy that turning the lines to Marylebone into special coach roads (privately run?) has now found favour with the planner Professor Peter Hall, who is no demon of the New Right. Similar principles should apply to the National Bus Company: a careful balancing act is needed to open commercial opportunity but stops short of dismemberment and the sinking of managerial morale.

On roads Mr Ridley faces a sequence of "second-order" decisions that will test his resolve. The stop-go planning of the A1-Archway Road – in north London is a scandal. As with the extension of the M40 from Oxford to Birmingham there comes a point when the "due process" of our cumbersome town and country planning system must end, and a minister must give the starting signal. Landed commuters from Kent and East Sussex will not bless Mr Ridley for the decision he must surely take soon to abandon the anomalous Tonbridge to Hastings rail line.

But Mr Ridley's big test is London – the untidy legacy of Mr Howell's dithering over the subsidy level for London Transport. There can be little doubt that continuing high levels of public subsidy are necessary to sustain an Edwardian tube network and a congested bus service. Mr Ridley's dislike of large-scale collective provision will not obviate the need for him to buckle down to practical questions of apportioning the cost of the public subsidy for London Transport; Mr Jenkin's precipitate moves to abolish the Greater London Council give him little time.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

US attitudes to its 'soft underbelly'

From Sir John Whitmore

Sir, Does Jeane Kirkpatrick seriously believe that the security interests of the United States are threatened by events in El Salvador or Nicaragua, something to which she accuses West Europeans of being extraordinarily blind and indifferent (Spectrum, October 12)? If she does, it can only mean that the United States is far weaker than we blind Europeans have noticed.

I can perhaps reassure her, for I hear that a Nicaraguan spokesman has promised not to invade the United States if the United States will promise not to invade Nicaragua. I have never quite understood how the United States claims the right to intervene in its "soft underbelly", central and southern America, without granting the same right to the Soviet Union with its rather longer and softer "underbelly" – but then I am not an American.

Jeane Kirkpatrick finds most disturbing her assertion that Western nations ignore human rights violations in the Soviet Union and her satellites but "focus their protests on the real but both qualitatively and quantitatively lesser violations committed by traditional non-communist anti-communist autocracies in Latin America."

Europe certainly does not ignore Soviet violations, and has repeatedly protested about them, but what does she mean by "qualitatively and quantitatively lesser violations" – unless murder by government death squads does not count, on the basis that if one is dead one is not human and/or one has no rights? Death squad murders in El Salvador alone by the most conservative estimates amount to more than 30,000 in the last four years.

I will confine myself to one further comment on her extraordinary and truly alarming opinions. She speaks of "semantic confusion fostered by the communists themselves through their systematically perverse use of language", and goes on to quote some examples with her interpretation of the correct meaning. My counter, and I am not a communist, requires no interpretation to demonstrate its perversity. President Reagan has named the homeless ICBM, the MX missile, "the peacemaker".

Rhetoric, deliberate distortion and propaganda are behaviours that we Westerners have traditionally expected from the Soviet Union. Now they emanate more frequently from the United States, sometimes to echo in Whitehall. Inflammatory pronouncements, such as President Reagan's now famous "evil empire" speech and Jeane Kirkpatrick's interview in Spectrum, contribute nothing to peace nor to European faith in American leadership. Mrs Thatcher, please note.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WHITMORE,
Deputy Director,
Centre for International Peacebuilding,
Southbank House,
Black Prince Road,
Lambeth, SE1.
October 17.

Play's bad language

From Lord Willis

Sir, In his review of the play, *Just a Kick in the Grass* (October 12), your critic made the comment that the *Churchill Theatre, Bromley*, had refused to stage the play because of its bad language.

This is not true. The play had been rehearsed and although there were some reservations about the coarse language the governing board of the theatre decided to let the production go ahead. However, two or three days before the scheduled opening night we received legal advice which indicated that there was a danger that the play was libellous and that we would be taking a risk and possibly incur heavy damages if we allowed it to be staged.

An emergency meeting was called and the play was withdrawn, solely on the basis of this legal advice. Your reviewer implied an act of censorship which did not take place.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIS,
5 Shepherds Green,
Chislehurst, Kent.
October 12.

Victorian values

From Mr J. G. Otway

Sir, Mr Hartwell's argument for the preservation of the worthiest brick industrial chimney (October 14) holds true for the inverse structure, namely the well.

Destruction is not so dramatic but the building skill was no less.

Yours truly,
J. G. OTWAY,
Dill Cottage,
High Hurstwood,
Nr Uckfield,
Sussex.
October 16.

Alternatives to custodial sentencing

From Professor Nigel Walker

Sir, I agree with the criminal lawyers whose letter you published on October 14. It is both illogical and a pity that there should be no way of suspending a youth custody sentence – or a detention centre order, for that matter.

The suspended prison sentence saves a substantial number of offenders from burdening our prison system at any time in their career, without contributing much to the crime rate. To deprive courts of the power to suspend the only custodial sentences which can be imposed on those under 21 is difficult to justify.

Lady James and I argued this in a note of dissent from the Younger Report of 1975: but the majority, who were very optimistic about the therapeutic value of youth custody, rejected our arguments. The first Government White Paper accepted our view, but the eventual Bill did not.

An amendment of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 to put this illogicality right would be very suitable for a Private Member's Bill.

I am, Sir, etc,
NIGEL WALKER,
King's College,
Cambridge.
October 15.

From Mr P. J. Richardson

Sir, Ms Belford and her colleagues (October 14) have missed the point of the provisions in the Criminal Justice Act 1982. If the number of persons under 21 years in custody has increased since the legislation came into force then it may be that the judiciary has been missing the point also.

Ms Belford correctly points out that a custodial sentence may only be passed if the court "is of the opinion that no other method of dealing with the offender is appropriate." It is thoroughly misleading, however, to assert that if the court feels the existing forms of non-custodial sentence are inappropriate then it has no alternative but to pass a custodial sentence.

The Act, in fact, says the court may only conclude that no other method of dealing with the offender is appropriate for one of three stated grounds, namely (i) that it appears the offender is unable or unwilling to respond to non-custodial penalties, (ii) a custodial sentence is necessary for the protection of the public, or (iii) the offence is so serious that a non-custodial sentence cannot be justified.

The complaint is made that there is no power to suspend a sentence, but it is quite plain that the intention behind the Act and the clear meaning of the Act itself are to the effect that if the case is one where the court feels that it would suspend the sentence had it the power to do so, then it is not a case for a custodial sentence at all because the court could not possibly be of the opinion that one of the above three grounds applied.

Armed now with the point of the legislation, Ms Belford and her colleagues will be in a better position to persuade the judiciary of it. If they succeed, as they should, the consequence ought to be that which Parliament intended, a reduction in the proportion of persons receiving custodial sentences.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. RICHARDSON,
6 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.
October 14.

Suspension of parole

From the Director of the Prison Reform Trust

Sir, There is one aspect of the Home Secretary's speech to his party conference which causes particular concern. In announcing that violent offenders and those who have engaged in the importation and marketing of hard drugs should no longer be eligible for parole Mr Brittan has infringed a basic principle of British justice. That is, that changes in the law and in sentencing policy should not be retrospective.

Whatever view one may take of the parole system, there can be little doubt that it is one factor which the judiciary take into account when passing sentence. Those offenders presently imprisoned for the very serious crimes encompassed by the Home Secretary's statement are serving sentences which were imposed in the knowledge that they would be eligible for release on parole after serving one-third of that sentence.

While it may be argued that parole is a privilege and not a right, the assessment of an offender's suitability for release on parole is enshrined in statute. Furthermore, if the Home Secretary pursues his proposals he will *de facto* be extending the length of many sentences imposed by the courts.

Criticism of the Home Secretary's speech has been voiced by both prison governors and prison officers. However, the impact on the climate in the long-term prisons would be reduced if the new measures were not retrospective in their coverage.

Yours sincerely,
STEPHEN SHAW, Director,
Prison Reform Trust,
Nuffield Lodge,
Regents Park, NW1.
October 17.

The Hoskyns file

From Lord Bancroft

Sir, In his "Whitehall brief" today (October 18) Mr Hennessy accuses me amongst others of taking Sir John Hoskyns's recent lecture seriously. Mr Hennessy confuses higher seriousness with courteous derision. I must therefore make myself plainer.

In the past more than one Minister has been described, with fairness all round, as the Mary Baker Eddy of economic theory. In the present Sir John Hoskyns's blend of relatively innocent content and compulsively readable style qualifies him, equally fairly, as the Dornford Yates of political theory.

This for my part ends the debate, such as it has been.

Yours faithfully,
BANCROFT,
House of Lords.
October 18.

Peace movement tactics

From Mr E. P. Thompson

Sir, In your leading article (October 17) you say that divisions over policy are now emerging among Western peace groups. If, despite the advocacy of millions, cruise and Pershing 2 missiles should be deployed, should the subsequent tactics of the peace movement "be violence or non-violence?"

And you argue that "the logic of demonstrations points to violence" in the pursuit of "extra publicity".

Since my own name is cited in close juxtaposition to this argument, may I say that in my extensive knowledge of the British peace movement (CND, END and the numerous affiliates of the National Peace Council) I have not heard a single responsible voice raised in support of methods of violence?

Our methods continue to be as they were – persuasion, rational advocacy, and every form of non-violent testimony.

It may be that very small groups which advocate confrontations and punch-ups are to be found on the fringe of the West German and Italian movements. If so, these derive from different traditions and are simply trying to make use of the peace movement for their own purposes.

It may also be that they are themselves being made use of for unsavoury purposes by provocateurs, since it could be in the interests of short-sighted security officials to engineer dramatic episodes of violence.

But our friends in the West German peace movement are taking every possible step to "self-police" their own non-violent demonstrations; while in two recent peaceful blockades of the cruise missile base at Comiso, in Sicily, our Italian friends were the victims of indiscriminate *police* violence, and they were in no way the aggressors.

Yours faithfully,
E. P. THOMPSON,
Wick Episcopi,
Upper Wick,
Worcester.
October 17.

British cheese in France

From Mr Tom Jaine

Sir, Your correspondent M. A. Tatam asked (October 15) whether a viable market for British cheeses existed in France.

Five years ago we spent an entertaining fortnight selling Christmas puddings, fruit cakes, marmalade and lemon curd, of our own making, at the Caen Fair in Normandy. We also took with us a few hundred weight of chedder cheese from the Priory Farm at Chewton Mendip.

Reception of this cheese was enthusiastic, whole truckles being sold with ease. Not only was the taste appreciated but the price was reasonable for we ignored all regulations for cost equalisation as laid down by the common agricultural policy.

The hunger of the French for this, and our other pretematurally British foods, took us aback; as did their constant demand for loose tea, at a price more in line with England than the Gallic high street.

Yours faithfully,
TOM JAINE,
The Carved Angel,
2 South Embankment,
Dartmouth, South Devon.
October 16

Forestry policy

From Mr Guy Somerset and Mr Colin Franks

Sir, The letter from Sir Andrew Gilchrist (October 4) highlights the confused thinking on current policies for the uplands. Commons on Exmoor and the Quantock Hills are threatened by contradictory and wasteful policies pursued by a number of Government departments, statutory agencies and local authorities.

The Secretary of State for the Environment provides funds for conservation and may refuse consent to fencing on common land, yet the Minister of Agriculture subsidises intensive agricultural development.

The Countryside Commission is offering grants for fencing the Quantocks as an area of outstanding natural beauty, but the Nature Conservancy Council wants to protect them as sites of special scientific interest.

The Somerset County Council and a district council are paying for fencing, but the Exmoor National Park Authority is buying up rights of pasture in order to prevent further enclosures and loss of common land. One common has been so badly neglected by the district council that invasion of gorse and bracken has limited its use both for recreation and farming.

If commons are fenced they will be able to carry many more livestock and so attract larger annual subsidies. It would be unfortunate if the use of public funds for enclosing commons led subsequently to high compensation payments by the conservation authorities to farmers who agree not to realise the full economic potential of the land.

In the immediate future it is essential that the Secretary of State for the Environment should refuse to allow any new fencing, that the Minister of Agriculture should stop offering subsidies for more intensive farming of the moors and that the county councils, district councils and countryside commission should not pay for more fencing and cattle grids on the commons.

All that would save significant sums of public money, something which should appeal to the Government. In the longer term, management schemes should be worked out to provide for conservation, recreation and the optimum level of farming the commons.

Yours faithfully,
GUY SOMERSET,
(Chairman, Exmoor Society),
COLIN FRANKS, (Chairman, Quantocks Society),
Hoar Oak House,
Alcombe, Minehead, Somerset.
October 4.

Some more 'equal' than others?

From Mr J. R. Lucas

Sir, The Bishop of Southwark pleads eloquently (October 14) for a recognition of men's human worth, but spoils his case by introducing the deeply confusing concept of equality.

True, we are all infinitely precious in the eyes of God, and it could be said that we were, therefore, equally, because infinitely, precious. But when we are dealing with finite matters – finite human beings dividing finite resources – the language of equality has procrustean implications.

It implies, although this is not at all what the Bishop wants to imply, that in a family the one child that is musically gifted must not have extra music lessons unless all the others do too, and that the academically gifted should not be allowed to go to universities which are not available to the rest.

It is no part of the Christian religion to cut people down to egalitarian size, but the concept of equality does require just that. Although in some circumstances, under some conditions, a case for equality in some specified respects can be made out, it is only a limited and precise equality that is then in issue, not the pervasive and over-arching concern for human worth that the Bishop is concerned to commend.

What the Bishop is concerned about is of great importance: but his advocacy of human worth and the claim of human needs on us all would be more effective if it did not seem to carry with it egalitarian consequences that are unchristian as well as unjust.

Yours etc,
J. R. LUCAS,
Merton College,
Oxford.
October 14.

Public spending

From Sir Ian Gilmour, MP for Chesham & Amersham (Conservative)

Sir, Sir Douglas Hague (feature, October 18) claims as a matter "of logic not of judgment" that "if productivity (efficiency) in the public sector rises more slowly than the private then – given the same rates of pay in each – either tax rates must rise continually or the volume of public sector activity must be progressively reduced".

This proposition, if it were true, would be extremely important, but it is itself logically flawed.

If the Government employs a constant proportion of the workforce and all rates of pay rise together, then the proportion of Government expenditure in the money national income will be constant, given uncontroversial assumptions about profit margins and so on. This will be the case whatever the relative rates of growth and productivity in the public and private sector.

Under these conditions the volume of public sector activity will rise at the same rate as the workforce while the share of tax revenue in national income, the tacx burden and average tax rates will all be constant, not rising.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant
IAN GILMOUR,
House of Commons.
October 18.

New light on Elgin

From the Dean of St George's Hospital Medical School.

Sir, Lord Elgin has been getting rather a bad press lately, at least from some Greek sources. It therefore seems worth pointing out that during his tour of Greece in 1801 during which Elgin removed the Parthenon marbles he also introduced vaccination to Greece, and energetically promoted its use. This undoubtedly saved many Greek lives.

I am not presuming to enter the debate on the rightful home for the Marbles, but shouldn't there be a statue of Lord Elgin on the Acropolis?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WEST, Dean,
St George's Hospital Medical School,
Cranmer Terrace,
Tooting, SW17.

Well shod

From Captain H. R. Leach

Sir, From where does the British Army now get its footwear? Today's boot we learn (*The Times*, October 12) barely lasts a landing near the Dardanelles.

Twenty-one years ago a kindly quartermaster gave me a pair of "shoes, officer, walking out". Since then they have marched me around Catterick and Crater; carried me across the Himalayas and Hindu Kush; tramped me along the Pennines and Ridgeway, and pedalled me around Somerset and Shropshire. Now they walk me some eight miles daily through the streets of London.

We both look set for another decade.

I am Sir, yours better shod,
HUGH LEACH,
21 Choumert Square,
Peckham Rye, SE15.

Yours disgustedly

From Mr Richard Cobb

Sir, Having recently had a book published about my childhood in Tunbridge Wells, I have received a score of letters from inhabitants of the Royal Borough.

All of these, though posted in Tunbridge Wells, bear the postmark "Tonbridge". Has the Post Office suppressed the Royal Borough?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD COBB,
165 Godstow Road,
Wolvercote,
Oxford.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 20: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Governor of New South Wales and Lady Rowland had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Squadron Leader Adam Wise had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order (Fourth Class).

The President of the French Republic visited The Queen this afternoon.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of World Wildlife Fund International, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this evening in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight from Jordan.

Lieutenant-Commander Andrew Wynn, RN was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 20: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, as President, today visited the Horder Centre for Arthritics at Crowborough and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lieutenant for East Sussex (The Marquess of Abergavenny).

The Lady Glenconner was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 20: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester visited Baron's Close Family Centre and Coffee Hall Family Centre of The Church of England Children's Society, at Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, this afternoon.

Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, Royal Smithfield Club, was present this evening at the Annual Banquet of the Butchers' Charitable Institution, at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at a Fashion Show given in aid of The Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables (Putney and Brighton) at The All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, Wimbledon.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 20: The Duke and Duchess of Kent this evening attended the Première of *La Traviata* at the Odeon Theatre, Haymarket in aid of the Royal Opera House Trust and Development Appeal.

Sir Richard Buckley and Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
October 20: Princess Alexandra this afternoon opened Moyra House, the new housing scheme for the frail elderly, at Gedling, Nottinghamshire.

Afterwards, Her Royal Highness visited the new Arnold Leisure Centre and attended a Reception given by the Borough of Gedling in the Bonnington Theatre.

Princess Alexandra travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

A memorial service for Archbishop Philip Strong will be held today at noon at St Paul's, Knightsbridge.

A memorial service for Sir John Addis will be held today at 11.30 at St James's, Piccadilly.

A memorial service for Mr Dunstan Curtis will be held at noon on November 24, at St Brides, Fleet Street, London.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. S. Brown and Miss S. B. Gray
The engagement is announced between James, youngest son of Mr and Mrs S. W. R. Brown, of Blantyre, Malawi, and Sally, only daughter of Lord and Lady Gray of Contin, The Cedars, Drummond Road, Inverness.

Mr W. Bauer and Miss S. A. Laing
The engagement is announced between Wolfgang, only son of the late Johann Georg Bauer and of Mrs Ruth Bauer, of Tutzing, Bavaria, and Susan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A. M. Laing, of Fingest, Henley-on-Thames.

Mr J. Broad and Miss F. Royson
The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr and Mrs Broad, of Ascot, Berkshire, and Fiona, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Royson, of 26 Brechin Place, South Kensington.

Mr M. F. Brickman and Miss F. G. Turner
The engagement is announced between Michael Francis, younger son of Mr B. Brickman, of Victoria, London, and Mrs R. Brickman, of Shepperton, Middlesex, and Fiona Gay, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs K. D. Turner, of Branksome Park, Dorset.

Mr G. P. Coote and Miss A. L. Kiteley
The engagement is announced between Garry Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs P. T. Coote, of Ickenham, and Alison Lesley, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. A. J. Kiteley, of West Drayton.

Mr P. M. Davey and Miss C. A. Stoll
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Lieutenant-Commander and Mrs J. A. S. Davey, of South Hill, Framfield, Sussex, and Camille Ann, daughter of Mrs Joyann (Stoll) Rollings and Mr Douglas Rollings, of Grand Cayman Island, British West Indies. The marriage will take place in Grand Cayman.

Mr V. S. Duncan and Miss J. Cozens
The engagement is announced between Victor Steven, son of Mr and Mrs V Duncan, of Toronto, Canada, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Cozens, of St John's, Woking, Surrey.

Mr H. P. Goddard and Miss S. J. Raymond
The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Goddard, of Bledington, Gloucestershire, and Jane, younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs Roland Raymond, of Wimbourne, Dorset.

Mr C. B. Gregory and Miss G. C. White
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs C. D. Gregory, of Owletts, Bickley, Kent, and Gillian, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs M. J. White, of Gables, Crondall, Hampshire.

Mr J. Hadjipourou and Miss W. Dorset
The engagement is announced between John Hadjipourou, of Luton, Bedfordshire, and Wendy, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. Dorset, of Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Mr P. Mountstephen and Miss R. Weston
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Mr and Mrs Dennis Mountstephen, of West Chiltington, Sussex, and Ruth, elder daughter of Canon and Mrs Keith Weston, of Oxford.

Mr G. M. Rinck and Miss V. L. Flower
The engagement is announced between Gary, youngest son of the late Mr H. Carl Rinck and Mrs Louise Rinck, of Phoenix, Arizona, and Virginia, only daughter fo Mr and Mrs John Flower, of Montreal, Quebec.

Mr B. J. M. Rose and Miss X. C. Beith
The engagement is announced between Bernard, second son of Mr and Mrs Michael Rose, of Highgate, London, N6, and Xenia, daughter of Mrs J Beith and the late Mr H. Beith, of Hampstead, London, NW3.

Mr T. R. Sullivan and Miss S. E. Lewis Jones
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of the late Mr Maurice Sullivan, MBE, and Mrs Jean Sullivan, of 4, Clayton Drive, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, and Susan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gordon Lewis Jones, of Flint Cottage, West Drive, Ham Manor, Angmering, West Sussex.

Mr R. D. L. Thomas and Dr S. M. Tyson
The engagement is announced between Richard David Lewis, eldest son of Mr L. P. Thomas and Dr A. G. Thomas, of Newport, Gwent, and Susan Marguerite, only daughter of Mr M. W. Tyson and the late Mrs M. V. Tyson, of Clapham, London.

Mr D. R. Watts and Miss K. E. Rhodes
The engagement is announced between David Russell, son of the late Mr W. G. A. Watts and Mrs R. M. Watts, of Petts Wood, and Kirsten Elisabeth, daughter of Dr J. Rhodes and Mrs J. L. Rhodes, of Eastbourne.

Marriages

Mr P. S. Kinnersley Haddock and Miss J. S. Sabini
The marriage took place on October 15 in London of Mr Paul Stuart Kinnersley Haddock and Miss Jemima Sophy Sabini.

Mr R. L. Paquin and Miss A. L. Wilson
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 15, in Paris, of Mr Renaud Paquin, son of Mr Bernard Paquin and Mrs Wally Karveno, and Miss Amanda Wilson, daughter of Mr Charles Wilson and Mrs Vivien Wilson.

Latest wills

Mr John Painter Heaver, of Ratham, Bosham, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1,190,044 net.

Dr Louise Wilhelmine Leven, of Hindhead, Surrey, left estate valued at £379,910 net. She left £1,650, her home and effects to personal legatees, and the residue to the Association of Jewish Refugees Charitable Trust.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Dolby, Miss Sylvia, Fordingbridge, Hampshire £237,000

Sir Ralph Richardson

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Ralph Richardson will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Thursday, November 17, 1983. Those wishing to attend are asked to apply for tickets to: The Chapter Clerk, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, Westminster Abbey, London SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by not later than Thursday, November 3. Tickets will be posted on Thursday, November 10.

Funeral

Sir Peter Norton-Griffiths
The funeral of Sir Peter Norton-Griffiths took place at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, yesterday. The Rev A. C. Courtauld officiated, assisted by the Rev R. G. Russell. The lesson was read by Mr Michael Norton-Griffiths (son) and Sir David Muirhead gave an address. Among those present were:

Sir John and Lady Norton-Griffiths (son and daughter-in-law), Mrs Anne Morgan (daughter), Mrs Michael Norton-Griffiths (daughter-in-law), Alistair Norton-Griffiths (grandson), Mme Pascal de Sounnac (granddaughter), Major and Mrs Richard White (grandson-in-law and granddaughter), Mrs Ursula Thorpe (sister), Mr and Mrs Jeremy Thorpe, Mr and Mrs Keith Butt, Dr and Mrs Timothy Wood, Mr and Mrs Norman Grimley.

The Dowager Marchioness of Reading, Lord Reigate, the Hon Lady Muirhead, Sir Anthony and Lady Tritton, Mr and Mrs J W R Shakespeare, Mr R I Threlfall, QC and Mrs Threlfall and Mrs Thomas Haywood.

Birthdays today

Dr Godfrey Allen, 92; Mr Malcolm Arnold, 62; Mr Geoffrey Boycott, 43; Mr Norman Clarke, 67; Dr W. L. Ferrar, 90; Mr Simon Gray, 47; Lord Grieve, 66; Sir Maurice Hodgson, 64; Mr J. F. C. Hull, 58; Professor Sir Roy Marshall, 63; Miss Nadia Nerina, 56; Mr Leonard Rossiter, 57; Sir Georg Solti, 71; Lord Thomas of Swynnerton, 52; Mr Francis Warner, 46.

New chaplain

The Rev John Witheridge has been appointed Chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury, in succession to the Rev Richard Chartres, who is to become priest-in-charge of St Stephen's, Rochester Row, London. Mr Witheridge is head of religious studies and assistant chaplain at Marlborough College.

Harrow Association

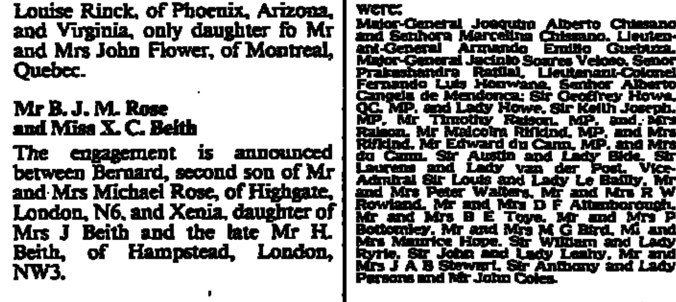
The triennial dinner of the Harrow Association will be held at the Royal Automobile Club, 89 Pall Mall, SW1, on Thursday, December 1. Tickets are available from Mr P.H.M. Swan, The Old Rectory, Bradley, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9RY.

Prize for Radio 2

A BBC Radio 2 programme about Scotland *A Land for All Seasons*, produced by Richard Titchen, has won the Asian and Pacific Broadcasting Union's Radio Foundation Prize at its twentieth general assembly in Auckland, New Zealand.

Luncheons

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host at a luncheon given at 10 Downing Street yesterday in honour of the President of Mozambique and Dona Graça Machel. The other guests were:



Major-General Joaquim Alberto Chissano and Senhora Marcelina Chissano, Lieutenant-General Armando Emilio Guebuza, Major-General Jacinto Soares Veloso, Senor Prakashandra Ratilal, Lieutenant-Colonel Fernando Luis Honwana, Senhor Alberto Cangela de Mendonca; Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, and Lady Howe, Sir Keith Joseph, MP, Mr Timothy Raison, MP, and Mrs Raison, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, MP, and Mrs Rifkind, Mr Edward du Cann, MP, and Mrs du Cann, Sir Austin and Lady Bide, Sir Laurens and Lady van der Post, Vice-Admiral Sir Louis and Lady Le Bailly, Mr and Mrs Peter Walters, Mr and Mrs R W Rowland, Mr and Mrs D F Attenborough, Mr and Mrs B E Toye, Mr and Mrs P Bottomley, Mr and Mrs M G Bird, Mr and Mrs Maurice Hope, Sir William and Lady Ryrie, Sir John and Lady Leahy, Mr and Mrs J A B Stewart, Sir Anthony and Lady Parsons and Mr John Coles.

Newspaper Press Fund
The Lord Provost of Glasgow was host at the annual luncheon of the Glasgow and West of Scotland District branch of the Newspaper Press Fund held in the City Chambers, Glasgow, yesterday. Mr Bernard Vickers, chairman of the branch, was in the chair and the other speakers were Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, and the Archbishop of Glasgow. Among those present were:

The Lady Provost, Mrs Vickers; Mr Bruce Millan, MP, Sir Edward Pickering, President of the Newspaper Press Fund, Sir David and Lady English, Mr and Mrs Anthony Miles, Mr Hugh Dundas, Mr Doon Campbell, Chairman of the Newspaper Press Fund, Mr Robin Cook, MP, Mr and Mrs J Burns, Dr William Morris, Mr Brian Thompson, Mr Derek A Webster, Mr and Mrs Terence Cassidy, Mr and Mrs George Mackie, Mr Robin Parkin, Mrs H Liddell, Mr John M Paterson, Mr and Mrs Ernie Walker, Mr and Mrs Jim Rodger, Mr and Mrs Alex Frutin, Mr Eric Hamilton, Mr Martin Frizzell, Mr and Mrs John Enos, Mr Jock Stein, Mrs P Hewitt, Mr Peter Evans, secretary of the Newspaper Press Fund.

HTV West
The Lord Lieutenant of Avon, Sir John Wills, Bt, was the guest of honour at a luncheon at which Mr George McWatters, Chairman of HTV West, was the host, given in support of the International Centre for Child Studies.

Professor Neville Butler, founder of the Bristol based centre, announced substantial donations had been received from the JT Group, the DRG Group, and from HTV. Support for the cause at home and overseas was growing rapidly.

British Dental Association
B. A. Gillard, Chairman of Council of the British Dental Association, was host at a luncheon given yesterday at the association's headquarters at which the guest were:

Mr John Patten, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health, Mrs Janet Walden, Sir Frank Lawton, president General Dental Council, Dr M C Downer, Chief Dental Officer, Mr P Benner and Mr G D Gibb.

Other BDA officers present were: Mr K C McWalter, vice-chairman of council, Mr D A M Geddes, chairman, Central Committee for University Dental Teachers and Research Workers, Mr K R Ray, chairman, Central Committee for Hospital Dental Services, Mr D Watson James, chairman, General Dental Services Committee, Mr N H Whitehouse, chairman, Central Committee for Community Dental Services, Mr R B Allen, secretary of the BDA, and Mr K Johnson, secretary-designate.

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Professor Geoffrey Slaney, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, yesterday entertained at luncheon at the college, Sir Ian Morrow, Mr W. P. Courtauld, Mr Walter Sichel, Mr John Flint and Miss Phyllis George.

Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain
Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, was guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday by the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain at the Imperial Hotel. Mr Sidney Weiland, vice-president of the association, was in the chair.

Reception

Corps of Queen's Messengers
The Corps of Queen's Messengers held their annual reception at 1 Carlton Gardens last night. The principal guests were Sir William Heseltine, Deputy Private Secretary to the Queen, and Lady Heseltine, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and Lady Howe, Mr and Mrs Ray Whitney, Sir Antony Acland, Head of the Diplomatic Service, and Lady Acland, Lieutenant-Colonel Terry Crump, superintendent of the corps, received the guests.

Dinners

HM Government
Viscount Whitelaw, CH, MP, was the host at a dinner given at Lancaster House yesterday in honour of the President of Mozambique and Dona Graca Machel.

Lord Mayor
The Lord Mayor last night entertained at dinner at the Mansion house the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Governor and directors of the Bank of England, Bankers and merchants of the City of London, members of the Court of Aldermen, the Sheriffs, the Chief Commoner and some members of the Court of Common Council. The speakers were the Lord Mayor, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chairman of the Stock Exchange, Sir Nicholas Goodison, the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, and the chairman of Lloyd's Sir Peter Green.

Anchorites
The Anchorites held a Trafalgar Night dinner yesterday at the Café Royal, under the presidency of Lieutenant Commander G. E. D. Lang, RN (retd). The principal guest was Vice-Admiral Sir James Kennon, Chief of Fleet Support.

Broderers' Company
Sir John Donne, Master of the Broderers' Company, assisted by Mr Robin Mann and Mr James Tearle, Wardens, last night entertained the Master, Wardens and Clerks of associated companies at a livery dinner held at Mercers' Hall. The Master of the Mercers' Company and Mr A. J. Collier were the speakers. The Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe and the Dean of St Paul's were among the guests.

Reading Pathological Society
The annual dinner of the Reading Pathological Society was held at the Phyllis Court Club, Henley-on-Thames, last night. Dr R. W. Wilkinson, president, welcomed Professor R. E. Steiner as the principal speaker. The guests included the Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, the Bishop of Reading, Professor Harold Hopkins and Dr J. W. Laws.

Institute of Cost and Management Accountants
The President of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants, Mr David Allen, was host at a dinner held at Saddlers' Hall, London, yesterday evening. Among the guests were:

Mr R J Andrew, Mr D W T Angwin, Mr N S Ashdown, Mr R A Birch, Mr R H Bird, Mr F E Bonner, Mr D A Budgett, Mr D Burton, Mr J M Butler, Sir Adrian Cadbury, Mr J Caines, Mr J S Cassels, Mr J A G Clarke, Mr A W Clements, the Rev C K Hamel Cooke, Mr G S Cribb, Mr L I H Dacey, Mr Ian Hay Davison, Mr D M Dell, Mr Edmund Dell, Mr A Dick, Mrs M Downes, Mr G Downey, Mr J S Eden-Smith, Mr R England, Mr D S L Fletcher, Mr H W A Francis, Mr Bruce George, MP, Mr H C Harrison, Dr Bernard Hatchick, Mr W Heeps, Mr C E S Horsford, Mr A R Houseman, Mr G G Hulme, Mr J W P Johnston, Mr C W Joyce, Mr David Knox, MP, Mr I C McCutcheon, Sir Maitland Mackie, Mr P I Marshall, Mr J F Mayne, Mr W Meakin, Mr D I Morphet, Mr A C Morris, Mr C B Newcomb, Mr A R Pilkington, Sir Frank Price, Mr R E Richardson, Mr P Roberts, Mr W K Roberts, Mr I Rushton, Mr J H M Samuel, Mr K J Sharp, Mr R Sheaf, Sir Neil Shields, Mr Tim Smith, MP, Mr G D Stewart-Smith and Mr N K S Willis.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Professor Malcolm Bradbury, Head of the Department of English and American Studies at the University of East Anglia, was the guest speaker at a meeting held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's, in conjuction with the National Book League. Mr Martyn Goff, Director of the National Book League, was in the chair.

Service dinners

Naval Historians
Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, First Sea Lord, and Lieutenant-Commander Peter Kemp were guests at a Trafalgar Eve dinner given at the Garrick Club last night by naval historians. Mr Richard Ollard was in the chair. Others present were:

Captain John Coote, Mr Richard Hough, Mr Ludovic Kennedy, Dr Roger Knight, Professor Christopher Lloyd, Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, Dr Alan McGowan, Mr Patrick O'Brian, Captain R H Parsons, Mr Alan Pearsall, Mr Tom Pocock, Dr Nicholas Rodger, Professor D M Schurman, Mr Warren Tute, Mr Richard Walker, Lieutenant-Commander Peter Whitlock and Mr David Woodward.

Royal Naval College, Greenwich
A dinner was held last night at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, to celebrate Admiral Lord Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. The Second Sea Lord and Admiral President, Vice-Admiral Sir Simon Cassels, was present and the guest speaker was Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton. Commander A. H. F. Wilks, commander of the college, presided.

HMS Mercury
Admiral Sir Anthony Morton was the guest of honour at a dinner held in HMS Mercury yesterday to commemorate the Battle of Trafalgar. Commander J. M. Castle, RN, presided.

Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785
The Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 gave a dinner at the Naval and Military Club last night to commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Berger presided and *Mr James Pilditch was the guest of honour.*

Rajput Regiment
The Rajput Regiment held its annual dinner at the Army and Navy Club yesterday. Major H. C. H. Pollen presided.

Honorary degrees

The Council for National Academic Awards has awarded the following honorary degrees which will be conferred by its president, the Prince of Wales, at a ceremony to be held in Edinburgh on November 23.

Doctor of education: Mr Joseph Dunning and Baroness McFarlane of Llandaff.

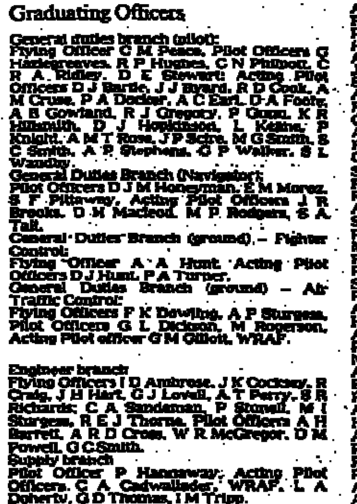
Doctor of laws: Sir Donald Barron and Sir James Hamilton.

Doctor of technology: Mr John Parker.

RAF Cranwell graduations

Air Vice-Marshal M. K. Adams, Air Officer Commanding (Training Units) Support Command, was the reviewing officer when 99 officers of No 71 initial officer training course graduated from the Royal Air Force College Cranwell yesterday. The Flying Training School, Cranwell, provided the fly-past.

The Prizewinners were:
Sword of Merit: Pilot Officer M. Rogerson; Sash of Merit: Flying Officer G. E. J. Dodd, WRAF; Hennessy trophy and Philip Sassoon memorial prize: Flying Officer R. C. Norman; British Aircraft Corporation trophy: Flying Officer S. R. Richards; Overseas students' prize: Pilot Officer Nasser Al Harthy, SOAF.



Graduating Officers

General duties branch (pilot): Flying Officer C M Peace. Pilot Officers G Hardgreaves, R P Hughes, C N Philpott, C R A Ridley, D E Stewart; Acting Pilot Officers D J Bartle, J J Byard, R D Cook, A M Cruse, P A Decker, A C Earl, D A Foote, A B Gowland, R J Gregory, P Gunn, K R Hillsmith, D J Hopkinson, L Keane, P Knight, A M T Rose, J P Scire, M G Smith, S C Smith, A P Stephens, G P Walker, S L Wandby.

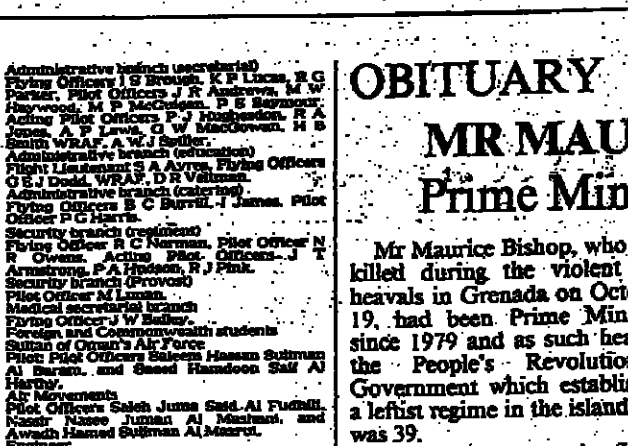
General Duties Branch (Navigator): Pilot Officers D J M Honeyman, E M Morez, S F Pittaway; Acting Pilot Officers J R Brooks, D M Macleod, M P Rodgers, S A Tait.

General Duties Branch (ground) – Fighter Control: Flying Officer A A Hunt; Acting Pilot Officers D J Hunt, P A Turner.

General Duties Branch (ground) – Air Traffic Control: Flying Officers P K Dowling, A P Sturgess; Pilot Officers G L Dickson, M Rogerson; Acting Pilot officer G M Gillott, WRAF.

Engineer branch: Flying Officers I D Ambrose, J K Cocksey, R Craig, J H Hart, G J Lovell, A T Perry, S R Richards; C A Sandeman, P Stowell, M I Sturgess, R E J Thorne; Pilot Officers A H Barrett, A R D Cross, W R McGregor, D M Powell, G C Smith.

Supply branch: Pilot Officer P Hannaway; Acting Pilot Officers C A Cadwallader, WRAF, L A Doherty, G D Thomas, I M Tripp.



Administrative branch (secretarial): Flying Officers I S Brough, K P Lucas, R G Parker; Pilot Officers J R Andrews, M W Haywood, M P McCuigan, P S Seymour; Acting Pilot Officers P J Hughesdon, R A Jones, A P Lewis, G W MacGowan, H B Smith WRAF, A W J Sellier.

Administrative branch (education): Flight Lieutenant S A Ayres; Flying Officers G E J Dodd, WRAF, D R Vallman.

Administrative branch (catering): Flying Officers B C Burrill, I James; Pilot Officer P G Harris.

Security branch (regiment): Flying Officer R C Norman; Pilot Officer N R Owens; Acting Pilot Officers J T Armstrong, P A Hudson, R J Pink.

Security branch (Provost): Pilot Officer M Luman.

Medical secretarial branch: Flying Officer J W Bailey.

Foreign and Commonwealth students: Sultan of Oman's Air Force. Pilot: Pilot Officers Saleem Hassan Suliman Al Barami, and Saeed Hamdoon Saif Al Harthy.

Air Movements: Pilot Officers Saleh Juma Said Al Fudhili, Nassir Nasee Juman Al Mashani, and Awadh Hamed Suliman Al Maamri.

Engineer: Pilot Officers Bader Abdul Rahim Sulieman Al Barrami, and Nasser Hamdun Saif Al Harthy.

Administrative: Pilot Officer Basem Said Khamis Al Sariri.

Rapier: Pilot Officers Ahmed Mohammed Suleiman Al Farsi, and Ahmed Mohammed Zahran Ar Ruwahi.



Bravery honoured: Mrs Anne Howorth outside Buckingham Palace yesterday with the George Medal awarded posthumously to her husband, Kenneth, a police explosives officer, who died nearly two years ago when an IRA bomb in Oxford Street, London, exploded as he attempted to defuse it. Mrs Howorth, who was accompanied by her son, Steven, and daughter, Susan, had a private interview with the Queen before the investiture.

Science report

Riddle of the pole that lost its pair

By Peace Wright, Science Editor

As every knows, or thought he knew until recently, that magnetic poles exist only in pairs, such as the north and south ends opf a bar magnetic or compass needle, or at either end of the globe where the Earth's magnetic field is concentrated most highly.

The proof that magnetic poles existed only in pairs came from cutting a bar magnet in half, whereupon to new poles were created naturally at the break: a new south to compensate for the original north, and vice versa.

Hence the excitement last year when a physicists working with Dr Blas Cabrera at Stanford University, Califronia, claimed to have detected a microscopic particle which was a magnetic monopole. It was identified as it flew through a specially constructed loop.

That solitary incident is the only physical evidence that magnetic monopoles might exist. There were suggestions that the measurement, now called the Stanford Valentine's Day event by physicists, may have been an observation of a fertile imagination or of an anomaly caused by jolting the equipment.

But there are strong arguments in the modern theory of the structure of matter in the universe to believe that isolated monopoles can exist as though not in great abundance. There are several different sources.

One is the presence of heavy atomic particles left over from the Big Bang. Another is the existence of GUT (Grand Unified Theory) monopoles associated with an exchange of energy in nuclear interactions. A third possible source is manmade accelerators in which bunches of particles are driven by electromagnetic fields to speeds approaching that of light and then allowed to collide.

Since the Stanford incident some eminent research groups around the world have devised detectors to locate monopoles. In a papaer in the latest issue of *Nature*, Dr Richard Carrigan of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Illinois, and Dr Peter Trower of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, say: "The objective is t9o corroborate or refute this solitary piece of evidence that is tantalizingly linked with the validity of the current principal theory of matter."

The activity has become the focus for many scientists in disciplines previously connected very loosely: low-temperature equipment experts and theorists in high-energy particle physics, cosmologists and astrophysicists.

Dr Carrigan says "such a mixture has produced an excitement characteristic of nascent science before it is subdued into well-behaved formality".

The review also describes types of exotic instruments devised to detect the very tiny signals of X-rays and pulses of light that a monopole might release as it slows down in a detector. The latest version of the device used by Stanford looks like a distillation flask with several loops of a wire around it.

This type of instrument is kept behind screens to filter out any possible electrical or magnetic disturbances so if a monopole should fly in from space, the tiny changes it would cause in the currents flowing through the wire would be detected.

Nature (Vol 305, No 5936, 1983).

OBITUARY

MR MAURICE BISHOP
Prime Minister of Grenada

Mr Maurice Bishop, who was killed during the violent upheavals in Grenada on October 19, had been Prime Minister since 1979 and as such headed the People's Revolutionary Government which established a leftist regime in the island. He was 39.

An immensely popular figure in Grenada, Bishop was widely seen as leading the more moderate faction in the governing New Jewel Movement, which he had helped to found in the early 1970s. It was his differences with Mr Bernard Coard, the more ideological deputy Prime Minister, which led to the attempt to overthrow him last week and his subsequent death.

Under Bishop's leadership, the government established cordial relations with Cuba, which provided economic aid, and with the Soviet Union, which also gave aid and which Grenada conspicuously supported at the United Nations over its invasion of Afghanistan. It clamped down on opposition movements within Grenada, and refused to hold elections.

It also did much to improve health and education in the island, and stopped well short of introducing a completely Marxist system. Bishop and his associates were anxious to retain a degree of pragmatism, and to prevent the severance of all links with the United States and western Europe.

Grenada asked for and obtained aid from the EEC for building its new airport. And in spite of intense hostility from Washington, which saw the island as becoming a new base for subversion in the Caribbean, Bishop travelled to the United States earlier this year in an attempt to mend relations. He argued that Washington had made a mistake in cold-shouldering Cuba and so driving it into the arms of the Soviet Union, and that it should avoid doing the same to Grenada.

Bishop was born on May 29, 1944, on the island of Aruba, where his father, a businessman, had temporarily moved. He went to Presentation College in Grenada, and came to London to study law. He was called to the Bar by Gray's Inn in 1969.

He returned to Grenada in 1970, and immediately threw himself into moves against Mr, later Sir, Eric Gairy, the authoritarian Prime Minister. In 1972 he formed the Movement for Assemblies of the People, and the following year merged that with another movement to form the New Jewel movement (standing for "joint endeavour for welfare, education and liberation").

The next few years were turbulent ones, with frequent demonstrations against Gairy, in one of which Bishop's father was killed. On the eve of Grenada's independence in 1974 Bishop was briefly arrested on Gairy's orders. In the 1976 election the opposition won six of the 15 seats in Parliament, and Bishop was elected their leader.

The New Jewel Movement seized power in a coup in 1979, while Gairy was out of the country, and was initially widely popular. But enthusiasm waned as the shape of the new regime became clearer, particularly among the middle class, though the government continued to allow latitude to private business.

Tension built up with the United States, particularly over the new airport. Bishop maintained that Grenada needed a bigger airport to accommodate large jets, so that it could develop tourism. But in Washington it was seen as a potential staging point for Cuban operations in Africa or South America. In 1981 Bishop announced that he was expecting an American invasion, and that he was putting the island on a war footing.

Throughout those years there were differences between Bishop and Coard over the extent to which the government should apply Marxist principles. These came to a head last week in a attempt to remove Bishop from the office of Prime Minister, and in his house arrest. But his supporters refused to accept this and released him, which led to the bloody scenes on Wednesday, when Bishop and his associates were killed by the Army.

PROFESSOR ERIC EASSON

Professor Eric Craig Easson, CBE, Emeritus Professor of radiotherapy in the University of Manchester and a former director of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester died on October 18. He was 68. He had made major contribution's to the control of cancer.

Easson was a former President of the Royal College of Radiologists and director of the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute.

He was born in Grangemouth, Scotland, and studied medicine at Glasgow University. He served in the RAF from 1939 to 1945 and was appointed to the Christie Hospital in 1946.

He was its director from 1962 to 1979 and was consultant advisor on radiotherapy to the Department of Health from 1974 to 1979. In 1973 he was elected to the Chair of Radiotherapy in the University of Manchester.

Much of his working life was devoted to cancer control and he was for many years chairman of the Commission on Cancer Control of the International Union against Cancer (UICC). He was deeply concerned with all aspects of cancer, especially statistical evaluation and actuarial concepts of curability, and with regional organisation and coordination of cancer services.

Among his great contributions was the demonstration of the curability of cancer in various sites and the dispelling of the problem of pessimism about cancer in the general public. Early detection of cancer was a special interest and he was the prime mover in the development of cervical cytology in the Manchester region, an example which was subsequently followed nationally.

He was also deeply concerned in the problem of terminal care and the establishment of hospices. He enjoyed an international reputation and his opinion on cancer problems was frequently sought.

On retirement he continued to maintain his interest in his chosen speciality and it is with regret that a textbook which with which he was involved was not completed at the time of his death. He was a man deeply concerned about cancer and its impact on society.

He was appointed CBE in 1978.

ALBERT CAREL WILLINK

Albert Carel Willink, the Dutch painter, died in Amsterdam on October 19 at the age of 83. After beginning in the abstract mode, Willink moved towards neo-realism and evolved a style which together with a careful choice of subject matter, conveyed a vision of life which, while it might tritely be called pessimism, showed a profound awareness of the mechanical processes (disguised as 'technological advances') by which man is destroying the cultural heritage he has created for himself.

Willink was born in Amsterdam in 1900 and studied architecture in Delft before taking to painting. He attended the Amsterdam Academy and then went to Berlin where he worked with H. Baluschek from 1920 to 1923. This was the period of his abstractionism and he exhibited with the *Novembergruppe* in Berlin.

His work of this period showed the strong influence of the Cubist, Fernand Leger, and for the year 1926 he had worked at Le Fauconnier's *atelier* in Paris.

But from 1926 Willink moved towards the *Neue Sachlichkeit* (neo-realism) in which he was to find the best outlet for his pessimistic, one might almost say post-apocalyptic vision.

With the precision of the Dutch masters whost mantle he could not help in some respects donning, he increasingly moved towards beautifully constructed, brilliantly painted works which nevertheless with their violent juxtaposition of known architectural masterpieces with backdrops or foregrounds of desolation tenanted by somnolent, giant tortoises, venomous snakes or wandering camels starkly suggested the bleak end man is preparing for himself.

From the end of the First World War he was already prefiguring the Second, and with the nuclear tests of the 1950s his landscapes acquired a new and disturbing neatness, grand classical ruins presiding over landscapes in which humanity, often represented by a solitary fleeing figure, seemed at the mercy of monstrous forms lurking under the ever present mushroom cloud.

His fastidiousness of technique, itself partaking of the Dutch 17th century, combined with a hard unreal light only enhanced a sense of impending terror, while at the same time it harked back almost nostalgically to the empty, pre-human world.

Many of Amsterdam's neo-Gothic buildings he placed in unrecognisible landscapes, and when he painted the Tate Gallery he put a mountain range behind it. These strange juxtapositions he felt united the world in its participation in impending destruction.

MR PETER DUDLEY

Peter Dudley, who played the part of Bert Tilsley in the television series *Coronation Street*, died in hospital yesterday at the age of 47. He had been suffering from heart trouble and had asked to be written out of the programme to help his recovery. His last screen appearance was in July.

Dudley was born in Manchester and trained in repertory. He had five parts in *Coronation Street* before Bert Tilsley in 1979 and his other television work included *Strangers*, *Shabby Tiger*, *A Raging Calm* and *Crown Court*. He appeared regularly in productions at the Manchester Library Theatre.

هكذا من الاصل

Investment and Finance

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THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 691.0 up 12.6
FT Gilts: 81.38 up 0.19
FT All Share: 432.03 up 5.45
Bargains: 16,886
New York: Dow Jones Average: 1248.88 up 2.13
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9.319.55 up 38.75
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 790.11 down 4.23
Amsterdam: 148.9 unchanged
Sydney: AO Index 683.9 up 4.1
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 989.9 up 2.90
Brussels: General Index 125.15 down 0.92
Paris: CAC Index 139.7 down 0.3
Zurich: SKA General Index 290.4 down 0.9

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling $1.4985 down 20pts
Index 83.3m unchanged
DM 3.88 down 0.0025
FrF 11.85 down 0.01
Yen 348.50 down 1.0
Dollar
Index 125.7 down 0.2
DM 2.5894
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling $1.4975
Dollar DM 2,5895
INTERNATIONAL
ECU£0.579723
SDR£0.710204

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week fixed 9
3 month interbank 9⅜-9$^{5}/_{16}$

Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9$^{7}/_{16}$-9$^{9}/_{16}$
3 month DM 51$^{3}/_{16}$-51$^{1}/_{16}$
3 month Fr F13$^{13}/_{16}$-13¾
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9¼
Treasury long bond 103$^{11}/_{16}$-104$^{1}/_{16}$

ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period September 7, to October 4, 1983 inclusive: 9.719 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am $390pm $389.75
close $393 (£262.25)
New York latest: $392.75
Krugerrand* (per coin): $404-405.50 (£269.50-270.50)
Sovereigns* (new): $91.50-92.50 (£61-61.75)
*Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interims: Bluemel Bros, William Cook & Sons (Sheffield), Midsummer Inns, Stanley Miller Holdings, Uniflex Holdings.
Finals: Goodman Brothers, Lowland Investment, North Sea Assets, Rand Mines Properties.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Breville Europe, Angel Hotel, Guildford, Surrey (11.00). **Deborah Services,** 27/28 Lovat Lane, EC3 (11.30). **Land Investors,** Churchill Hotel, Portman Square, W1 (noon). **Nolton,** Berystede Hotel, Ascot, Berkshire (11.30). **Bristol Channel Ship Repairers,** Channel Dry Dock, Cardiff (11.30). **Watsham's,** High Road, Willesden, NW10 (noon).

● The Japanese Government *is expected to adopt a comprehensive* economic package today, intended to improve the nation's strained trade relations and boost its economy at home.

Meanwhile, the Bank of Japan is ready to ease credit for the first time in nearly two year. Lowering the official discount rate, on which most other interest rates are pegged, will allow long-term loan rates to come down, and should offer a "psychological" boost for businessmen.

● The US Gross national product (GNP) grew at a healthy 7.9 per cent annual rate in the third quarter. The Commerce Department said in its preliminary estimate for the July-September quarter that the growth came from the building of inventories by businesses and from final sales, which cover buying by consumers and government and net exports. The latest GNP gains follow an annual 2.6 per cent growth rate in the first three months of the year and a heady 9.7 per cent growth in the April-June quarter.

● The US said it had concluded agreements limiting imports of speciality steel from five more countries. Mr Bill Brock, Trade Representative, who has already announced accords with Sweden and Austria, said he had completed agreements with Japan, Canada, Poland, Argentina and Spain. Altogether, the agreements cover about 66 per cent of speciality steel imports.

Bank Governor offers no protection from foreign competition

Market forces will determine future of the Stock Exchange

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Competitive pressures will play a big part in determining how the Stock Exchange evolves, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, said yesterday.

He also indicated that the Bank of England had no preference as to how the trading system of the Stock Exchange develops in the years to come, although is was concerned to see an efficient market with safeguards for investors.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton was speaking at the Lord Mayor's banquet in the City, his first big engagement since taking over as Governor in the summer.

It is also the first time the Bank of England has spoken out publicly to clarify its views in the changes afoot in the stock market, on which it is certain to have a considerable influence because of its monitoring role.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton gave no sign that the Bank of England was aiming to protect British firms from foreign competition. "It has to be recognized that competite pressures will do much to determine what sort of trading structure is needed for a flourishing Stock Exchange".

However, he emphasized that the Bank had various important considerations in mind while overseeing changes. He said the present system of trading providing effective protection to the investor.

"It also provides an effective central market, including a very efficient one in government debt: and the jobbing system ensures that there is a continuous market when trading conditions are difficult as well as when they are easier.

"A further necessary test for any alternative arrangements is thus whether they could assure a comparable market-making capability, avoiding fragmentation and a reduction in efficiency."

Despite this, Mr Leigh-Pemberton refrained from giving any indication whether he thought single capacity was necessary for either investor protection or an efficient market. He made clear that the Bank remained open-minded

The Governor acknowledged the uncertainties caused by the process of change but rejected the idea of laying down hard and fast rules.

"That would be a sure way to make the central market in the Stock Exchange lose business, much, no doubt, to overseas competition."

SE removes overseas rates

By Wayne Lintott

The Stock Exchange Council yesterday took the first step in dismantling minimum commissions by introducing negotiated rates on overseas securities. New rules for dealing in overseas securities will also be introduced.

No decisions have yet been taken on the method of dismantling commissions on other securities, the council added.

Rules relating to designated dealers will be replaced with ones that permit member firms to form subsidiary companies that will deal in overseas stocks.

The new rules say that international dealers, which can be formed by jobbers and brokers alike, must be incorporated as limited liability companies under the control of member firms.

A majority of the directors must be members of the Stock Exchange and the companies can only deal in overseas securities and as principals,

The new subsidiaries will not be covered by the Exchange's compensation fund which guarantees the debts of member firms.

The council is still working out the details and will be holding talks with member firms, then when completed will publish a full list. The council wants the new rules to be effective from March 31

The changes had been widely expected. Jobbers and brokers can now form joint or individually-owned subsidiaries to compete more effectively with the big foreign brokers operating in London and visa versa.

The outside commercial organizations which were allowed to deal direct with jobbers on foreign stocks, designated dealers, will now have to deal with the new international dealers.

Plea for risk-takers

By Derek Pain

An outspoken plea for more help and encouragement for investors was made last night by Sir Nicholas Goodison, Stock Exchange chairman, at the Mansion House.

He said: "We have gone too far along the road of punishing savers who put their money directly at risk in industry and commerce. We now need to do something positive to implant risk-taking attitudes and to nurture a popular interest in industry".

He added: "We must encourage people to hold shares in British industrial and commercial companies, and units in unit trusts, so that they can understand how important industry is and therefore support, with their votes, policies which encourage the development of industry".

Sir Nicholas maintained that some of the "punishments" now inflicted on investors could be removed without great difficulty.

The investment surcharge was an unfair way of taxing income twice; the complications of capital gains tax were now "beyond ordinary human understanding"

New rules to cover takeover advice

By Jeremy Warner

The way in which the Office of Fair Trading gives confidential guidance to companies on whetheer takeover bids can hope to escape a Monopolies and Mergers Commission reference is to be confined within strict guidelines.

The absence of any clearly-defined system for seeking guidance has prompted allegations of abuse of the facility and confusion over Government intentions in several instances.

Procedures for seeking and receiving guidance are being drawn up as part of an internal review of competition policy by the Department of Trade and Industry.

The review, which is nearly completed, has also recommended that the qualifying level for mergers to be scrutinized by the Office of Fair Trading be raised from companies with assets of £15m and over to those with £25m. This will reduce considerably the 200 or so mergers a year which the OFT studies.

But the government department has, for the moment, stopped short of the wide-ranging reform of mergers policy that some in the City and industry had been demanding

Mr Alex Fletcher, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Trade and Industry, said in a speech on competition policy yesterday that there are big advantages in the flexibility of the current system for scrutinizing mergers.

The new guidelines on confidential advice are being laid down to prevent abuse of a system that industrialists recognize as a helpful way of determining the Government's attitude to a takeover bid before it is launched.

In his speech, Mr Fletcher conceded that predictability was not achievable under the British system for looking at mergers.

"The essence of the system is flexibility and comparisions with the contrasting German and American systems show that there is a trade off between flexibility and predictability," he said



Morton: "no difference" to Moorside deal

Boardroom row at Guinness Peat

By Our Banking Correspondent

A long-standing non-executive director of Guinness Peat has resigned after a boardroom disagreement over the terms of Guinness Peat's latest deal.

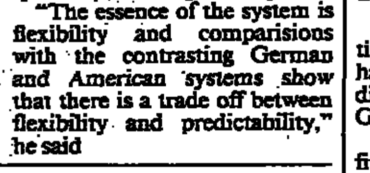
Last week the banking and financial services group, which has started a long struggle back to health, announced plans to buy Moorside Trust, an investment trust for £21m.

Guinness Peat plans to pay in shares for Moorside then sell off the investments to strengthen its balance sheet

However Mr Giorgio Rossi, a non-executive director, disagreed with the terms of the merger, though he favoured the deal, Guinness Peat said in a statement yesterday.

Mr Rossi is a director of Compagnie de l'Occident pour la Finance et l'Industrie SA (Cofi), which controls 8.23 per cent of Guinness Peat, and there is speculation that he will vote against the merger when it comes up for shareholders' approval

Mr Alastair Morton, chief executive of Guinness Peat, said yesterday that Mr Rossi's departure would make no difference to the Moorside deal.



BTG may opt for buyouts

By Andrew Cornelius

The Government is considering selling parcels of share stakes owned by British Technology Group to the companies own managements as one of a series of options to wind down BTG's investment role.

The buyout alternative is favoured by the Government as the quickest method of disposing of BTG's holdings in 61 companies with an asset value of £152m.

This month BTG was told that it would have to sell its stakes in the companies and abandon its investment role to concentrate on the transfer to technology from the innovation stage to commercial use.

A final decision on exactly how the BTG will be funded in future and how quickly its assets have to be sold will be taken once a successor has been appointed to Sir Frederick Wood, BTG chairman,

Mr Brian Willott, chief executive of BTG said yesterday that it expects a decision on Sir Frederick's successor within the next few weeks.

He expects the Government to produce details of how BTG should remain self-funding and yet carry out the technology transfer by early next year.

The decision on the disposal of assets, including BTG's stake in Inmos, the microchip manufacturer, will be taken once these guidelines are ready. Both the National Research Development Corporation and the National Enterprise Board, which produce separate accounts within the BTG stable, made profits last year.

Cars and drink boom boosts spending

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Record car buying and a big jump in beer sales during the summer heatwave helped push up consumer spending by 0.5 per cent in the third quarter, an increase of 3.5 per cent compared with the same period last year according to provisional estimates from the Government.

The continued buoyancy of consumer spending – which accounts for half total final demand in the economy – has been the chief factor behind increasingly optimistic Treasury assessments of output growth this year.

The Budget forecast predicted 2 per cent growth this year, with a rise in consumer spending of 2.5 per cent.

But Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, told the Conservative Party conference last week that he expected the rise in national output to be closer to 3 per cent, similar to the average increase in consumer spending so far this year.

The consumer boom has been financed from people's savings and through higher borrowing, including mortgages, where half of the money lent seeps into other spending.

The Bank of England said yesterday that the bank lending rose by £884m in the five weeks to mid-September, down from £1,213m in August. But the underlying incease may be considerably less, the Bank said.

Low company borrowing partly reflects the sluggishness of the increases this year – which means industry needs less cash to finance expansion – and partly companies' healthy financial position.

Figures from the Central Statistical Office show that companies ran a financial surplus of £2,400m in the first half of this year, after a £2,800m surplus in the previous six months.

The Bank confirmed that the most closely-watched money measure, sterling M3, fell last month by 0.4 per cent, bringing its annual growth rate since February to 9.7 per cent, well within the 7 to 11 per cent target band.

M1, the narrow money measure fell by 0.2 per cent, while the broadest measure of private sector liquidity, PSL2, rose by 0.2 per cent, equivalent to annualized growth rates since February respectively of 11.6 and 13.1 per cent.

City Editor's Comment

Lording over the monopolies law

Lord Cockfield is dead. Long live Lord Cockfield. It would be a trusting industrialist indeed who reached any other conclusion than this after reading the latest ministerial pronouncement on completion policy yesterday.

Mr Alex Fletcher, the minister responsible for takeover policy at Trade and Industry, is clearly at pains to assure the world that the Quixotic and inconsistent rulings of the former ennobled Secretary of State for Trade are a thing of the past.

From now on, he says, takeovers will be referred to the Monopolies Commission only after the most careful scrutiny, with the presumption clearly against such a move. The Government will make it its business to give as much guidance to the market as possible on the reasons behind its decisions.

The system by which companies can get a confi*dential ruling on whether or* not a takeover is likely to be ruled out of court will be reviewed and, by implication, improved.

It may well be that these words of reassurance prove to mark a significant shift of emphasis in merger policy. By any definition, Mr Tebbit, the new overlord at Trade and Industry, is no Lord Cockfield.

His first instinct is always likely to be that the market should be left to its own devices. (It is an amusing thought to speculate on what the new industry secretary would have made of the pro-Sotheby's lobby when the felt manufacturers first made their unwelcome approach. One suspects he might have been somewhat less sympathetic than his predecessor.)

But while Mr Fletcher may be making all the right reassuring noises, he has hardly given up the Government's prerogative to intervene. The Director General of Fair Trading may play an "essential role" in analysing each case and in most cases ministers will follow his advice, says the minister, but "ultimately ministers have no option but to weigh the issues for themselves".

The system for considering competition is "essentially discretionary" and "there are few rules". The system is desinged to allow ministers to "take the decisions that seem to them right in the circumstances."

This of course is precisely what Lord Cockfield was all about. After Sotheby's, the Royal Bank of Scotland and House of Fraser, to name but a few, it will need a consistent record of sensible government decisions to convince the sceptical businessman that ministerial talk about the need to avoid "capricious" decision-making is anything but pious waffle.

'Unfixing' the commissions

The new rules proposed by the Stock Exchange Council for dealing in overseas shares are a welcome first step in the dismantling of fixed commissions generally. Certainly, not making them enforcable until next March gives members plenty of time to review their future policy.

But the move is peripheral to the central problems involving the total removal of fixed commissions. What the announcement does not deal with are the levels of equity to be sold in International Dealers to non-member companies and the amount they should pay for the privilege of financing brokers trading in overseas securities.

The first problem is where smaller companies will get the money to trade. Total world equity capitalization shows the United States accounting for 65 per cent, then Japan with 15 per cent and Britain with 6 per cent.

A transaction of 100,000 shares in New York is small so to deal realistically, firms will need large amounts of capital. To trade as a principal or market maker will involve owning millions of shares and in that case capital needs will be enormous.

Even the British brokers think twice about such a *policy – which goes some* way to reveal why the big finance institutions like Exco Intrnational are invited into negotiations to buy stakes in the new International Dealers.

Reuters sell-off 'going well'

Lord Matthews, chairman of Fleet Holdings, publisher of the *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express*, said yesterday that the proposed Reuters flotation was going "very well".

Shares of the news agency and financial communications group are expected to come to the stock market next spring, pricing the group at between £1,000m and £1,500m.

Speaking at the yearly Fleet shareholders' meeting, Lord Matthews refuted suggestions that a Reuters trust deed made the flotation illegal.

Shares rally after losses

New York (AP – Dow Jones) – Shares held their gains in a modest rebound in early trading yesterday after two days of losses.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was up about 2.5 points at 1,249 and the transportation average was up about 5.2 at 589.

Advancing issues were 7-to-6 over losers. Trading was active.

Mr Michael Metz, vice-president at Oppenheimer, said: "The market seems to be trying to stabilize but I am a little sceptical because there seems to be a little more erosion ahead before we get an upturn."

WALL STREET

Mr Metz expects a rising tendency toward "risk aversion with people focusing on solid growth and earnings rather than on the more speculative stocks."

Digital Equipment was down 4⅛ at 67⅞, **American Telephone & Telegraph** down 1 at 62; **Raytheon** up 1⅛ to 44⅝; **Zenith** up 2¼ to 33¼; **Brunswick Corp** up 1⅞ at 51½; **Cray Research** up 2⅜ at 50; **Waste Management** down 1⅜ to 40⅞ and **AMR UP** ⅞ to 31⅝.

Insurers attack 'unfair' European advantage

Allianz bid angers UK firms

By John Lawless and Andrew Cornelius

The Allianz bid for Eagle Star yesterday raised the hackles of British insurers, who are severely restricted from business in West Germany – and coincidence with a survey from the Committee on Invisible Exports on trade barriers.

The committee's survey, which is being studied by the Department of Trade and Industry has been conducted over three months, taking evidence of business trends and the overseas potential from all its members. Mr William Clarke, its director general, said yesterday: "We have been asking where the shoe is pinching, by seeking firm examples of obstacles."

A package of complaints and proposals will be prepared for the next ministerial meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in a year's time, with case histories that the department is collecting from trade associations.

It is hoped that these will be multilateral negotiations, to pave the way for liberalization of trade in international services such as banking, insurance, shipping, aviation, consultancy and data transmission – a move initiated by the US at last year's ministerial meeting.

The EEC insurance market remains the most contentious subject. British companies are angry that the German company should be able to take advantage of the freedom of the London financial market – when it is almost impossible for them to take over companies in *some other* European countries.

Although most of the large composite insurance companies – including Royal, Guardian Royal Exchange and Commercial Union – have offices in West Germany, they have never been able to complete a takeover, and thereby grab a significant place in the market.

State control in France have prevented similar moves.

The problem is worse for brokers, because a number of countries insist that they cannot conduct business if they do not ha offices within their borders.

The EEC, in a long-running battle, has just formally asked West Germany why it has failed to implement a 1978 co-insurance directive – the first step towards a prosecution in the *European Court of Justice.*

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

William Low & Co
Year £3.9m to 3.9.83
Pretax profit £3.9m (£3.3m)
Stated earnings 35.57p (29.14p)
Turnover £135.6m (£119.8m)
Net dividend 8.6p (8p)

FJC Lilley
Half-year to 31.7.83
Pretax profit £6.5m (£5m)
Stated earnings 5.17p (4.77p)
Turnover £110.8m (£93.8m)
Net interim/dividend 1.2p (1.56)

Selincourt
Half-year to 31.7.83
Pretax profit £101,000 (£253,000)
Stated eanings 0.14p (0.3p)
Turnover £31.4m (£1.7m)
Net interim/dividend 0.025p (0.01p)

Pressac Holdings
Year to 31.7.83
Pretax profit £1.1m (£146,000)
Staed earnings 9.36p (1.79p)
Turnover £13.9m (£9.8m)
Net dividend 1.85p (1.1p)

MY Dart
Half-year loss to 2.7.83
Pretax loss £45,000 (£306,000)
Loss per share 0.24p (2p)
Turnover £12m (£11.6m)
Net interim dividend 0.25p (0.1p)

SI Group
Year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £1.1m (£577,000)
Stated earnings 5.77p (2.71p)
Turnover £8.5m (7.4m)
Net dividend 1.375p (1p)

Scottish Mortgage & Trust
Half-year to 30.9.83
Attributable profit £2.7m (£1.9m)
Stated earnings 2.9p (2.5p)
Turnover £8.1m (£5.1m)
Net interim/dividend 2.9p (2.5p)

Anchor Chemical Group
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax profit £210,000 (£333,000)
Stated earnings 2.2p (6.1p)
Turnover £7.2m (£6.8m)
Net interim/dividend 1p (same)

General Scottish Trust
Half-year to 30.9.83
Pretax profit £433,000 (£459,000)
Stated earnings 1.37p (1.5p)
Net interim/dividend 1p (same)

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK ● edited by Michael Prest

Gold loses lustre as income prospect

Gold's $4 fall yesterday to just below $390 an ounce gave an ironic counterpoint to the gold mine results from Anglo American's properties.

The aftertax profits of the mines were a mixed bag, the most noticable feature being the sharp fall for the quarter from R107, (63.3m) to R82m at the mighty Vaal Reefs.

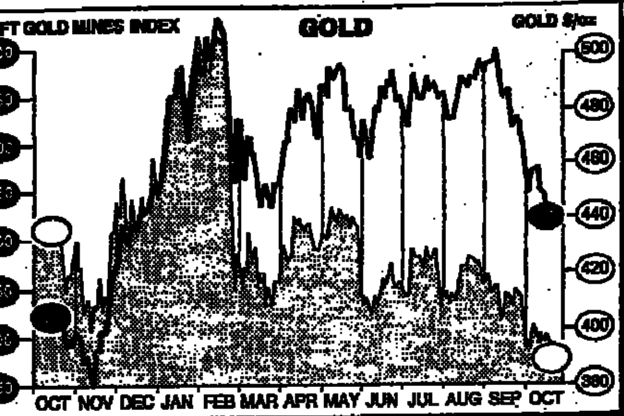
But with the evidence of Gemcor and Barlow Rand, it is clear that nobody is likely to buy South African gold mines for income at the moment.

The final dividends were Free State Geduld 215 cents, President Brand 220 cents, President Steyn 255 cents, and Western Holdings 325 cents.

Only the first of these was higher than for the same period last year. Gold mine yields are averaging about 8 per cent, a far cry from the heady days when investors expected to see a full return on their capital in five years. More than that, there is little prospect for several months of the mines raising their income much faster than inflation.

The latest figures are the first to incorporate the wages increases which came into effect on July 1, and prices increases generally are still running much faster in the republic than the authorities would like.

The drought – which may have eased – has not directly hurt output, but the huge cost of keeping water flowing to the power stations can be expected, given the Electricity Supply Commission's record, to be reflected in customers' bills soon. Capital expenditure on shaft sinking and underground development is still considerable.



Against that, the mines benefit – indeed are saved – by the depreciation of the Rand. Thus, the average gold price received by Anglo's Free State mines in the quarter to the end of last month was 23 per cent higher at R15,405 a kilogramme even though the dollar bullion price declined.

The state has a particular interest in floating the Rand because it preserves tax income from the mines, especially those which have high marginal tax rates. Meanwhile, the Rand should appreciate against the dollar when the gold price rises.

On balance, however, mine profits will be determined by the gold price rather than anything the mines can directly influence themselves.

To their credit, cost increases have been contained to about 7 per cent in the recent quarter. But gold shares still seem to be rated on a gold price of $450, and despite the sharp fall in the gold mines index may still weaken further. Whichever view one takes, gold shares are only attractive at the moment for capital gains.

Atlantic Resources

Atlantic Resourses
Half-year to 30.6.83
Pretax Loss Ir£515,000 (£385,000) (Ir£82,000)
Turnover Ir£335,000 (Ir£34,000)
Share price 545p

Even allowing for natural optimism on the part of the Irish, the real prospect of self sufficiency in oil from the finds in the Celtic Sea is being taken seriously in London.

But until the appraisal wells have been drilled and the field proven, the market is likely to remain a speculative trading one.

Analysts in London like what they have seen so far but want to see more before they make a final judgement.

Atlantic Resourses discovery in Block 49/9 in August is expected to be followed by another quite soon – probably this year, if the Gulf drill ship moves straight on to the next location.

Atlantic Resourses results are pretty academic and do not need much analysis while it is sitting on-oil discoveries through its one third interest in the consortium with Gulf and Unionoil Ireland.

If the next well is a disaster things may look rather different. Until then, it is high risk, high reward stuff.

Ironically Atlantic Resourses is still suffering from over-capicity in the gas market and it is likely to be next year before gas is sold at a satisfactory rate in the US.

Appraisal work on oil discoveries requires extra finance, but the company says there wil be no call on shareholders. The jump in losses stems largely from higher interest charges.

Quest Automation

Quest Automation
Half-year to 28.2.83
Pretax loss £3.5m (Loss £2.9m)
Stated loss 24.97p (21.99p)
Turnover £11.4m (£10.1m)
Net total dividend nil p (Nil p)

Half-year to 31.8.83
Pretax profit £38,000 (Loss £1.7m)
Turnover £3.7m (£5.1m)
Share price 20p, up 2p

Quest Automation, the computer aided design group, at last seems to have put the unhappy experiences of the last few months behing it with a return to profit in the first six months of the year.

The improvement in pretax results comes after a sharp reduction in research and development expenditure from £855,000 to £132,000.

Results for the previous year, also announced yesterday, show an extraordinary debit of £1.7m from losses on unsecured loanstock issued in exchange for assets transferred to Quest CAE.

Quest CAE became an associate company last February but was subsequently placed in receivership after a row with the investor who put cash into it.

Sound Diffusion

Sound Diffusion's business appears to be set on such an astonishing growth tack that it is a wonder no other company has followed its recipe for renting sound, catering and laundry equipment.

Pretax profits in the first half of this year rose from £1.4m to £2.3m and look set to top £5m for 1983 as a whole against £3.25m last time.

The company is reticent about the amount of new rental business it is likely to win this year, now that the sales force has grown to 100 – 50 per cent higher than a year ago.

Current results come nowhere near reflecting the huge growth in new, high quality rental business.

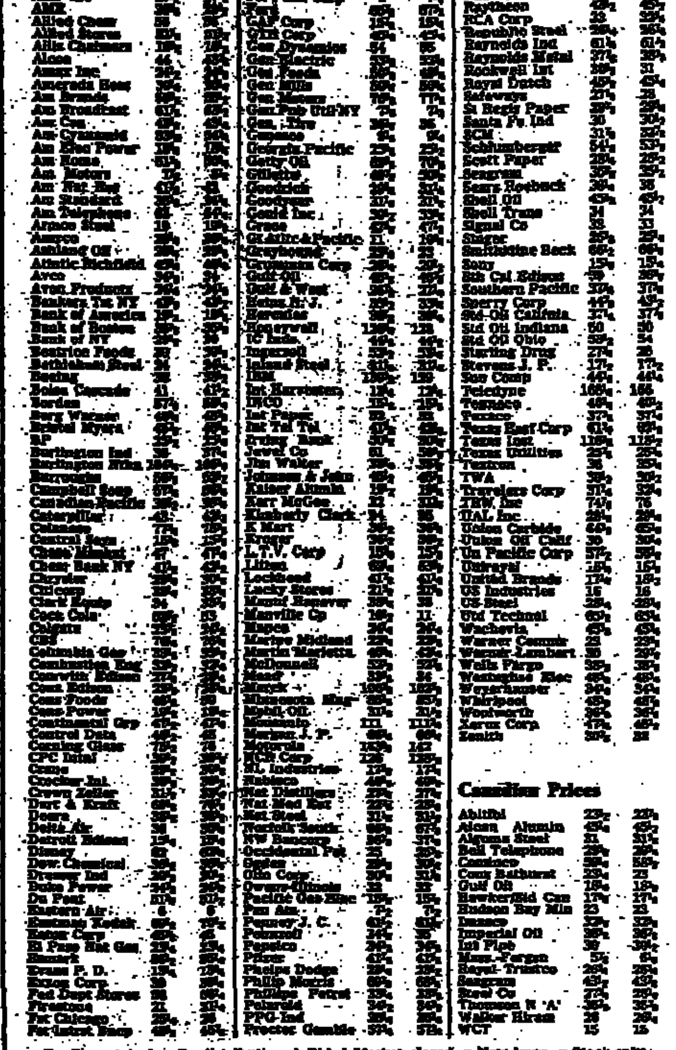
The order book is much bigger than all last year's installation work put together.

But the real boost for Sound Diffusion begins to materialize in 1985, when a number of big rental contracts revert from lease back to the company's own account.

The company's shares – up a further 7p to 108p yesterday – sell at a remarkable 32 times likely 1983 untaxed earnings and yield a tiny 0.3 per cent.

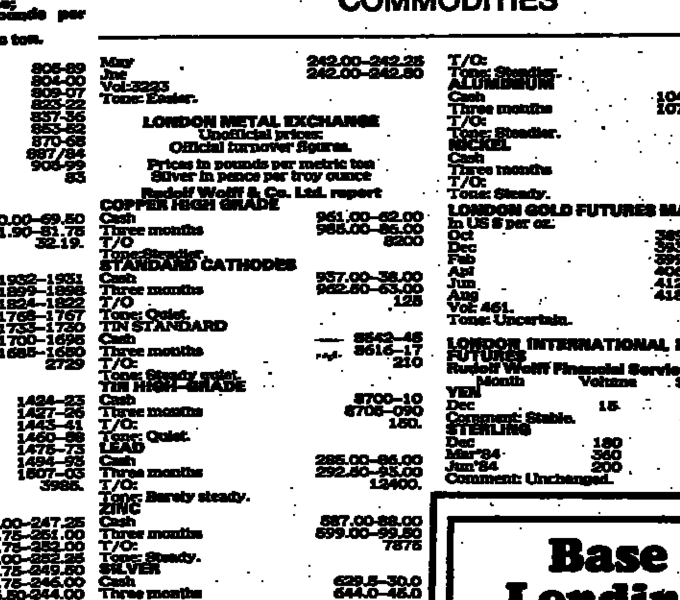
WALL STREET

Washington (AP-Dow-Jones)–The Securities and Exchange Commission will consider next week whether some banks and savings and loans societies that have expanded recently into brokerage and investment advisory services should be required to submit to SEC regulation.



• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

COMMODITIES



LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £s per tonne;
Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton;
Gas-oil in US $ per metric ton.

RUBBER	
Nov	806-89
Dec	804-00
Jan/Mar	809-07
Apl/Jne	823-22
Jne/Sep	837-36
Oct/Dec	853-52
Jan/Mar	870-68
Apl/Jne	887/84
Jne/Sep	906-99
Vol:	83
Tone: Uncertain.	
SUGAR	
Dec	170.00-69.50
May	181.90-81.75
Vol:	32.19.
Tone: Quiet.	
COFFEE	
Nov	1932-1931
Jan	1899-1898
Mar	1824-1822
May	1768-1767
July	1733-1730
Sep	1700-1695
Nov	1685-1680
Vol:	2729
Tone: Quietly steady.	
COCOA	
Dec	1424-23
Mar	1427-26
May	1443-41
Jly	1460-58
Sep	1475-73
Dec	1494-93
Mar	1507-03
Vol:	3985.
Tone: Steadier.	
GAS OIL	
Oct	247.00-247.25
Nov	250.75-251.00
Dec	251.75-252.00
Jan	252.00-252.25
Feb	248.75-249.50
Mar	245.75-246.00
Apl	243.50-244.00
May	242.00-242.25
Jne	242.00-242.50
Vol: 3223	
Tone: Easier.	

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices:
Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per metric ton
Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	961.00-62.00
Three months	985.00-86.00
T/O	8200
Tone: Steadier.	
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	937.00-38.00
Three months	962.50-63.00
T/O	125
Tone: Quiet.	
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	8642-46
Three months	8616-17
T/O:	210
Tone: Steady quiet.	
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	8700-10
Three months	8705-090
T/O:	150.
Tone: Quiet.	
LEAD	
Cash	285.00-86.00
Three months	292.50-95.00
T/O:	12400.
Tone: Barely steady.	
ZINC	
Cash	587.00-88.00
Three months	599.00-99.50
T/O:	7875
Tone: Steady.	
SILVER	
Cash	629.5-30.0
Three months	644.0-45.0
T/O:	25
Tone: Steadier.	
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	1044.00-45.00
Three months	1072.00-72.50
T/O:	7500
Tone: Steadier.	
NICKEL	
Cash	3184-87
Three months	3227-30
T/O:	432
Tone: Steady.	

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
In US $ per oz.

Oct	389.00-391.00
Dec	393.40-393.60
Feb	399.40-400.00
Apl	406.00-406.70
Jun	412.00-413.40
Aug	418.00-420.00
Vol: 461.	
Tone: Uncertain.	

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUTURES
Rudolf Wolff Financial Services Ltd.

Month	Volume	Settlement
YEN		
Dec	15	4319
Comment: Stable.		
STERLING		
Dec	180	14998
Mar'84	360	15010
Jun'84	200	15023
Comment: Unchanged.		
D-MARK		
Dec	32	3895
Mar'84	–	3918
Jun'84	–	3951
Comment: Quiet.		
SWISS FRANC		
Dec	18	4785
Mar'84	–	4846
Jun'84	–	4908
Comment: Quiet.		
EURODOLLARS		
Dec	1638	9044
Mar'84	141	9009
June'84	3	8980
Sep'84	2	8954
Dec'84	2	8931
Comment: Firm.		
SHORT STERLING		
Dec	144	9069
Mar'84	98	9040
June'84	14	9014
Sep'84	1	8985
Dec'84	–	8960
Comment: Quiet.		
GILTS		
Dec	3206	10627
Mar'84	–	10611
June'84	–	10528
Sept'84	–	10514
Dec'84	–	10600
Comment: Strong.		

London Grain Futures Market

Month	WHEAT Close	BARLEY Close
Nov	£121.50	117.10
Jan	£124.75	120.50
Mar	£127.75	123.50
May	£130.65	126.40
Jly	£133.60	–
Sep	£118.00	114.00

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	†10¼%
Consolidated Crds	9½%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	*9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Mortgage Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6¼%: £10,000 up to £50,000, 6¾%: £50,000 and over, 7¼%.

APPOINTMENTS

Lord Ezra elected BSI chief

British Standards Institution: Lord Ezra has been elected president, to succeed Sir Frederick Warner who is retiring.

Reed International: Mr Colin Barker has become a non-executive director from November 1. He succeeds Mr Howard Macdonald who is taking up a post as chairman and chief executive of Dome Petroleum.

The Post Office: Mr Bryan Roberts has been made director of the Postal Pay and Grading Department.

More O'Ferrall: Mr Peter Hall, group company secretary, is joining the board from November 1.

A. I. Industrial Products: Mr David Valentine has become group managing director.

Richards Hogg International Adjusters: Mr John R. Ahern will be admitted into partnership from November 1.

Imperial Continental Gas Association: Mr Etienne Gutt, Mr Jim L. Stretch and Mr Brian H. Wilmot have been appointed directors. Mr Gutt is a partner in Simont, Gutt & Simont, Brussels and is a director of Contibel SA and UNERG S.A. Mr Stretch remains director of oil operations IC Gas and managing director of Century Power and Light. Mr Wilmot retains his appointment as group financial controller of IC Gas.

Allied Breweries Management Services: Mr Mike Connolly has been appointed sales and marketing director.

Newman Industries: Mr Robert Crawford has become a non-executive director and will represent the United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution, the main shareholder. Mr David Dunn has been appointed finance director from December 1. Mr Derek Whittaker has been made an executive director from November 1 and will become chairman of the engineering division and Newman Electric Motors.

United Cable Programmes: The following appointments have been made: Mr P. H. Taylor, marketing and sales controller; Mr A. N. Singer, head of acquisitions, programme department; Mr N. J. Lake, head of programme planning and Mr D. J. Chapman, traffic and operations manager.

Clive Cookson on increasing transatlantic competition to provide financial news

Screen challenge for Reuters' market information service

Telerate, the New York-based but British-owned financial news, is making an increasingly aggressive push into the non-American markets dominated by its leading rival, Reuters.

The latest move is the appointment of Telerate's senior marketing executive, Mr John Jessup, to take charge of its drive into Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Mr Jessup, a former Reuters journalist and salesman who switched sides in 1978, becomes managing director of the new British subsidiary of AP-Dow Jones/Telerate.

This partnership, owned 49.9 per cent by Telerate and 25.05 per cent each by the Associated Press and Dow Jones, has been established to sell Telerate services outside North America. It supersedes an arrangement that gave Dow Jones exclusive distribution rights.

The growing transatlantic competition makes some City analysts doubt the valuations of £1,000m or even £1,500m being bandied about for Reuters' proposed stockmarket floatation (leaving aside the question of whether its owners can agree on a formula for the sale).

There are significant differences in the style and content the companies offer

For Reuters to justify a ten-figure price tag, there must be a good prospect of its achieving £200m pretax profits with a very few years. Last year's figure was £36.7m, compared with £16.7m in 1981. Reasonable estimates for 1983 and 1984 would be £55m and £80m respecively. Is so, a valuation of around £750m could perhaps be justified – 28 times this year'a prospective taxed earnings.

On the other hand, £1.000m for Reuters seems almost midest in comparison with the $900m (£600m) capitalization achieved by Telerate when it was floated on the New York Stock Exchange in April. That was more than 50 times the past year's earnings.

Since then Telerate stock has held close to the $20m offer price. However, shares in Exco, the London financial group which owns 51.5 per cent of Telerate, have slid from their springtime peak of 753p to about 540p. At that level Exco's total capitalization is no more than the value of its Telerate stake. (British and Commonwealth Shipping holds another 13.3 per cent of Telerate.)

Telerate's most recent results showed net income up 76 per cent to $13.9m for the nine months to June 30. Revenues were 60 per cent higher at $47.1m.

Reuters still has a much more extensive information network than Telerate. Indeed, it is said to have the second largest communications system in the world, after the American Department of Defence.

Counting terminals, Reuters' worldwide total of 34,000 compares with Telerate's 11,000. In North America, Telerate leads by about 8,000 to 6,000.

On Reuters' home ground, London, Telerate already has 1,250 terminals; Britain is Telerate's largest market after the United States. Mr Jessup said: "I think we have all the merchant banks in London, except one."

Although each regards the other as its main competitor, there are significant differences in style and content between the services offered on the Telerate Network and the Reuter Monitor. Many institutions have both terminals.

Telerate's range is considerably narrower and is still based largely on the American financial markets. It competes directly with Reuters on US bonds, money market and foreign exchange quotations. Reuters remains unchallenged in fields such as commodities, Eurobonds and share prices.

Of course, several other organizations on both sides of the Atlantic disseminate computerized financial information on a more limited scale. Extel, Datastream and the Stock Exchange (Topic) are London's main examples.

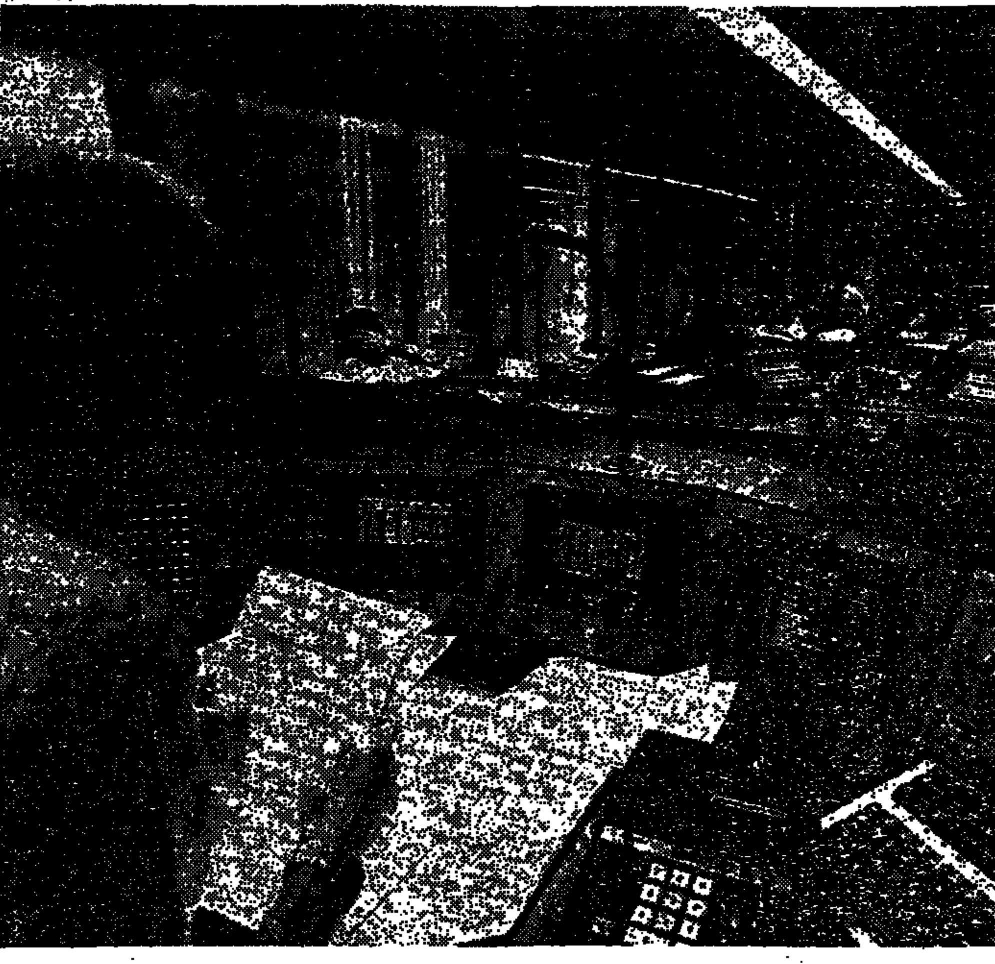
But Reuters and Telerate executives believe that their core services are safe from serious penetration by third parties. "I think Reuters and we have such a big head start in the markets we serve that it will be extremely difficult for more competitors to come along," Mr Jessup said.

The reasoning behind this apparent complacency is that Reuters and Telerate have sewn up the most important information sources in their markets. They get their key financial data free from clients, who receive a comprehensive information service in return. As Telerate's London Broker Grieveson Grant, put it in a recent circular: "The coustomer would have to obtain some very significant advantage to want to contribute to a third system and have a third terminal on his desk."

In North America Telerate leads by 8,000 terminals to Reuters' 6,000

If the smaller vendors cannot compete head-on with the big two, they are likely instead to make cooperative arrangements that would allow them to dissemite their information on te Telerate or Reuters network. Quotron, the main source of American share prices, already works in this eay with Telerate.

Grieveson Grant estimates cautiously that Telerate and Reuters have penetrated only 20 to 30 per cent of the potential market for financial news terminals. If that is true, if profit margins per terminal continue to fatten, and if all would-be competitors fail to overcome the information supply barrier, the Reuters/Telerate bubble may grow rather than burst.



Data bank: Reuter monitor screens at the Bank of America in London

Total Number of Telerate Terminals Installed

	United States	Outside United States	Worldwide
1978	1,812	25	1,837
1979	2,317	106	2,423
1980	3,009	409	3,418
1981	4,204	944	5,148
1982	5,850	1,648	7,498
1983 (estimate)	8,000	3,000	11,000

Financial notebook

Consternation over US state of limbo

President Reagan has had 1,000 days in the White House. But America's closest allies are not at all certain who is in charge on economic and trade issues.

At this critical point in the Administration - when uncertainty abounds over the Presidents plans and forthcoming elections - there is no one person or group of persons other than Mr Reagan apparently able to take a firm decision on the more pressing matters of the day.

The erratic dollar, continuing high interest rates, the high United States budget deficits, East-West trade tensions, growing protectionism in the steel and car industries among others, and conflicts with the European Community are some of the unresolved problems which remain persistent worries despite the American recovery.

Indeed, the only person who has direct, albiet independent, authority, to alter the course of the economy is Mr Paul Volcker, the veteran chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, America's central bank.

Given the stalemate between Congress and the Administration over fiscal policy, and the lack of movement in the Administration on other substantive issues, Mr. Volcker's economics show is the only one in town playing to sold-out audiences.

Every utterance of the tall, bespectacled central bank chairman is dissected for some sign of a shift in policy which will drive interest rates up or down over the next year and a half. Monetary policy is expected to be the only discernable policy until after the presidential elections.

This state of limbo is cause for consternation not only among American's political and financial rank and file but also among her closest allies. Her allies fear that a year and a half of inaction on these pressing problems could harm their own chances for sound, durable recoveries.

A high-level British official arrived in Washington recently and was told by embassy specialists before his talks with members of the Reagan Cabinet not to expect anything of a substantive nature.

"I was told that nothing is going to happen until after the 1984 elections. Can this be true?" he asked. The answer was unhappily "yes".

Some Administration officials will even admit this in private conversation. "We're already operating on an election schedule. The White House is focused on the election and that's what matters," a US Treasury official said recently.

Without a firm "go" from the White House, the rest of the Washington bureacracy is virtually paralyzed. This is particularly true in the economics and trade area

Mr Martin Feldstein, the President's chief economics adviser, is reportedly on his way out.

Mr William Brock, the Trade Representative, and his staff of specialists have been thrust into an internal power struggle with the Commerce Department which has left their status unclear.

The apparent winner in this struggle to merge the commerce and trade functions into one super agencey was Mr Malcolm Baldrige, the Commerce Secretary, but he has made clear that he is a loyal soldier who does what he is told by the White House.

And where is Mr David Stockman, the formerly visible director of the Office of Managment and Budget, whose staff is already gearing up for work on the 1985 federal budget?

If anyone in the Administration has power to take a decision it is Mr Donald Regan, the Treasury Secretary. But he is already campaigning for the President with a back-breaking schedule which leaves little time for other matters.

In the end, what all the confusion points to is the need for some pre-election transitional group or mechanism with authortiy to keep matters rolling along while others are preoccupied with the election.

The Administration is attempting to fashion such a group in the foreign policy area, with particular focus on the Middle East. A similar group in the economics and trade area would also be helpful.

Bailey Morris

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

1982/83 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

MARKET REPORT ● by Michael Clark

N Sea shakeout forecast

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Oct 17, Dealings end, Oct 28. Contango Day, Oct 31. Settlement Day, Nov 7.

It looks as though the bubble is about to burst for many of our smaller oil exploration companies.

According to a report out today the number of companies involved in exploration for North Sea oil has reached a peak and is likely to decline sharply over the next few years as the industry undergoes a major restructuring.

Mr Martin Lovegrove, an independent consultant who now works for James Capel, the broker, predicts a "major shakeout" over the next three to six years among the 240 companies with interests in North Sea licences.

"Companies will be taken over or merge, while some will either go bankrupt or just leave", he says. "Much of this activity will be centred around the matching of tax shelters with exploration and development expenditures", he adds.

BP's recent decision to auction part of its stake in the Forties Field highlights the need for companies to have the right tax balance, and more deals can be expected.

Mr Lovegrove reckons the main casualties will be the smaller companies with no taxable production. After its initial heavey investment of the 1970's the oil industry is now earning £4,000m a year. This year will be the peak in real terms for earnings, declinning gradually thereafter unless the oil price increases dramatically.

American investors appear to have warmed to the prospect of a US quote for shares of BSR, the electronic components group. Yesterday one broker was actively bidding for 3.5 million shares (2.5 per cent) and appears to have met with some success. The shares closed 12p higher at 165p.

The report succeeded in taking the steam out of most of the smaller exporation groups. **Charterhouse** was unchanged on 119p, while **Cluff** lost 3p to 60p and **Tricentrol** cut short a promising run to close 10p up at 214p, after 218p.

Elsewhere, the rest of the equity market was staging a long awaited technical rally as a few buyers appeared on the scene after a considerable absence. The *FT* Index has its best session in four months closing 12.6 up at 691.0.

Gilts also enjoyed a new lease of life scoring gains of up to 50p in longs following the latest set of money supply figures showing M3 falling in line with its target range in September. On the foreign exchange the pound lost 20 points to close at $1.4895.

American investors have turned their attention on shares of **Babcock International** 2p higher at 149p. There also seems to have been second thoughts about the plight of **Blue Circle Industries** following the devaluation of the Mexican peso recently. Yesterday the shares jumped 12p to 415p after a period of sluggishness as several brokers' buying orders caught jobbers on the hop.

The threat of cheap overseas imports still exists, despite the latest efforts of the European Community. But overseas there are signs of recovery for BCI, although conditions remain difficult. For the present year brokers are looking for pretax profits of nearer £130m.

The market is expected to give a warm welcome to shares of Logica, Europe's biggest software group. Yesterday broker Hoare Govett and merchant banker Close Bros completed the underwriting of the 10.4 million shares without trouble. The shares should be struck at about 175p compared with the minimum tender price of 140p.

Strong & Fisher, the leather maker, rose 7p to 86p on bid speculation. Word in the market suggest Mr Asil Nadir of Polly Peck fame may have taken more than a passing interest in the shares. Certainly one famous broker has been heavy buyers of the shares.

Shares of **A. J. Worthington (Holdings)** the textiles group advanced 7p to 30p. Earlier this week Michael Hartland, the financial services group, bought an extra 194,000 shares taking its stake up to 277,000 shares, or 13 per cent of the total.

Francis Industries, the engineering group, improved 1p to 77p on the news Suter had stepped up its interest in the company with the purchase of 795,000 shares. It now owns 1.89 million shares, or 17.1 per cent of the total. Asked if Suter would eventually make a full bid a spokesman said: "We have just increased our stake at this stage. I wouldn't like to comment any further".

Meanwhile, the **Kuwait Investment Office** now owns 2.2 million shares in **Powell Duffryn** amounting to 5.62 per cent of the issued equity. Shares of Powell rose 1p to 244p.

The **London Trust** has reduced its holding in **Myson Group** with the sale of 2 million shares. It now owns 4.29 million shares (8.4 per cent). Myson held steady at 51p.

RECENT ISSUES

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DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
111	50¾	Ass Leisure	107	..	5.9	5.5	12.2
418	136	Ass News	333	−8	14.9	4.5	15.7
94	49½	Ass Paper	92	−1	6.0b	6.5	7.2
85	54	Atkins Bros	80	..	7.1	8.9	40.6
160	77	Attwoods PLC	138	−1	2.9	2.1	24.5
57	25	Ault & Wiborg	39	−1	1.2	3.1	13.0
24	7	Aurora PLC	12	..	..	..	..
12	9	Do 9% Cnv Pref	11	..	1.3	11.7	..
58	20	Automotive Pd	32	+1	0.7	2.2	..
137	67	Avon Rubber	116	..	1.4	1.2	..
184¼	85¾	B.A.T. Ind	140	+2	10.2	7.3	4.4
43	22	BBA Grp	31	+1	2.5	8.0	14.4

C—E

F—H

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
168	82¾	Grosvenor Grp	152	+5	7.3	4.8	20.6
186	115	GKN	169	+6	11.4b	6.8	20.4
138	79	H.A.T. Grp	116	..	4.6	4.0	18.6
173	108	HTV	169	+1	15.7	9.3	5.6
302	105	Habitat	262	+4	7.6	2.9	18.1
293	173	Haden	191	−2	12.3	6.5	6.2
168	116	Hall Eng	118	..	10.9	9.2	4.8
280	178	Hall M.	228	..	8.8	3.8	11.1
242	180	Hallite	226	..	16.4	7.3	7.0
125	62¾	Halma PLC	110	+1	1.9	1.7	23.9
14¼	8¼	Hampson Ind	13	..	1.1b	8.2	12.3
81	31	Hanimex Corp	50	..	..	..	..

I—N

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
30	17	Modern Eng	26	..	..	..	..
183	96	Molins	181	+1	11.3	11.2	4.3
147	54	Monk A.	133	+2	8.6	6.4	5.5
9	4	Montecatini	8	..	..	..	..
50	18	Montfort Knit	32	..	..	..	..
110¼	66	More O'Ferrall	66	..	4.3	6.5	10.6
129	76	Morgan Cruc	115	−1	10.2	8.8	23.8
245	132	Moss Bros	237	..	5.8	2.4	22.2
248	175½	Mowlem J.	190	● ..	15.1	8.0	8.0
195	110	Muirhead	139	+5	5.7	4.1	12.5
145½	86	NSS News	88	+2	4.1	4.6	7.9
277⅛	173	Nabisco	226½	−½	14.6	6.5	10.7

O—S

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
30		Marshall T Lox	30	..	..e	..	..
23		Do A	25	..	..e	..	..
78		Marshalls Hfx	146	..	8.6	5.9	8.5
125		Martin News	146	+3	8.6	5.9	6.5
213		Martonair	232	..	11.4	4.9	13.8
90		Matthews B.	139	..	7.9	5.7	4.9
59		May & Hassell	89	..	5.4	6.1	6.7
53		Medminster	69	+3	5.9	8.5	12.4
215		Menzies J.	280	+2	7.7	2.8	9.8
140		Metal Box	248	+2	16.5	6.7	9.9
33¼		Metalrax	46	..	3.1b	6.8	11.1
56		Meyer Int	138	+3	5.4	3.9	11.0
24		Midland Ind	29	..	..	..	..
82		Milletts Leis	146	..	9.9	6.8	..
31		Mining Supplies	37	..	0.1	0.4	..
31½		Mitchell Cotts	49	+8	5.2	10.6	10.9
17		Moben Grp	29	..	0.4	1.2	8.3

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
690	280	Sotheby P.B.	690	..	0.1	..	43.6
216	139½	Spirax-Sarco	166	● ..	7.1	4.3	13.2
56	14	Staffs Potts	43	..	0.0	..	..
119	86	Stag Furniture	94	..	7.1	7.6	25.3
82	49	Stakis PLC	74½	+½	2.6	3.5	12.8
326	143¼	Standard Tel	252	−2	9.6	3.8	19.5
74	32	Stanley A. G.	49	..	1.4	2.9	41.9
385	208	Steel Bros	385	..	17.1	4.5	9.0
229	127	Steetley Co	207	..	10.0b	4.8	32.2
142	49½	Steinberg	116	−1	2.9b	2.5	14.6
53	20	Streeters	37	..	..	..	..
83	21	Strong & Fisher	83	+4	2.4	2.9	..
265	91	Sunlight Serv	250	h −2	6.3	2.5	14.1
305	228	Superdrug	233	+5	5.0b	2.1	27.6
45	17	Sutcliffe S'man	30	..	..e	..	13.4
75	23	Suter Elec	63	−4	2.9b	4.6	..
158½	62	Swire Pacific 'A'	121½	+1½	..	..	..

T—Z

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
17¼	13¼	TDK	13½	−¼	9.2	0.7	21.9
182	90	TI Group	138	+2	10.7	7.8	..
166	14	TACE	118	+4	4.3	3.6	38.6
108	41	TSL Therm Synd	41	..	..	..	7.6
24	13	TSW	21	..	1.3	6.1	7.5
252¼	16¾	Takeda BDR	£21¾	−¼	17.6	0.8	29.9
7¾	2¾	Talbex Grp	6¾	..	..	..	..
462	199	Tarmac PLC	420	+4	16.3	3.9	14.7
383	187½	Tate & Lyle	348	+12	22.1b	6.4	7.4
600	480	Taylor Woodrow	515	..	27.9	5.4	10.5

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

1982/83 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
119	68	Murray N'thn	113	..	2.9	2.5	..
116	65	Do 'B'	111	−2	..	..	..
89¾	50¾	Murray West	81	..	2.7b	3.3	..
85	49¾	Do 'B'	79	−1	..	..	..
89	40	New Darien Oil	68	..	0.4e	0.6	..
37	18	N Throg Inc 83	32½	..	3.1	9.7	..

PROPERTY

PLANTATIONS

MISCELLANEOUS

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) October 20	Market rates (close) October 20	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.4855-1.5005	$1.4880-1.4890	0.02-0.07c disc	0.13-0.18c disc
Montreal	$1.8430-1.8475	$1.8445-1.8455	par-0.10c disc	0.04-0.14c disc
Amsterdam	4.35-4.37½fl	4.35½-4.36½fl	1½-1c prem	3¾-3¼c prem
Brussels	79.00-79.40f	79.05-79.15f	6 prem-4c disc	par-10c disc
Copenhagen	14.05-14.11k	14.06½-14.07½k	140-245ore disc	415-530ore disc
Dublin	1.2500-1.2560p	1.2515-1.2525p	29-38p disc	89-105p disc
Frankfurt	3.87-3.89m	3.87½-3.88½m	1½-1pf prem	3¾-3¼pf prem
Lisbon	184.75-185.75e	185.00-185.50e	195-445c disc	675-1270c disc
Madrid	225.75-226.50p	225.90-226.10p	285-350c disc	730-890c disc
Milan	2358-2366lr	2362-2364lr	16-18lr disc	50½-53½lr disc
Oslo	10.93-10.98k	10.94-10.95k	335-405ore disc	1005-1095ore disc
Paris	11.84-11.88f	11.84½-11.85½f	2¾-3¾c disc	12½-14½c disc
Stockholm	11.62-11.67k	11.63-11.64k	230-290ore disc	720-790ore disc
Tokyo	347-350y	348-349y	0.90-0.75y prem	2.45-2.28y prem
Vienna	27.20-27.35sch	27.23-27.28sch	8-6gro prem	20-17gro prem
Zurich	3.14-3.16½f	3.15-3.16f	1¾-1¼c prem	4½-3¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was unchanged at 83.3.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 10%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 9 Low 8¾

Week Fixed: 9¼-9

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8⅞	2 months	8⅞
3 months	8⅞	3 months	8⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	9⅟₃₂-9	1 month	9⅜
2 months	8⅞-8⅞	2 months	9⅜
3 months	8⅞-8⅞	3 months	9⅜
6 months	8⅞-8⅞	6 months	9⅜

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9¾-9½	7 months	9½-9⅞
2 months	9¾-9½	8 months	9½-9⅞
3 months	9½-9⅜	9 months	10-9¾
4 months	9½-9⅜	10 months	10-9¾
5 months	9½-9⅜	11 months	10-9¾
6 months	9½-9⅜	12 months	10-9¾

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	9¼-9	6 months	9⅜-9¼
3 months	9⅜-9	12 months	9½-9⅜

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8⅞	3 months	9¼
7 days	9	6 months	9⅜
1 month	9⅛	1 year	9⅝

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 10½		Close 8⅞	
1 week	9⅜-9¼	6 months	9½-9⅜
1 month	9¼-9⅛	9 months	9⅝-9½
3 months	9⅜-9¼	12 months	9¾-9⅝

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 9⅜ 6 months 9½

Finance House Base Rate 10%

Other Markets

Australia	1.6360-1.6430
Bahrein	0.5630-0.5660
Finland	8.4110-8.4510
Greece	137.65-139.65
Hongkong	11.5865-11.7365
Iran	n.a.
Kuwait	0.4330-0.4360
Malaysia	3.4965-3.5265
Mexico	220-245
New Zealand	2.25-2.27
Saudi Arabia	5.1985-5.2295
Singapore	3.18-3.21
South Africa	1.6820-1.6970

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.1963-1.1973
† Canada	1.2313-1.2316
Netherlands	2.9080-2.9090
Belgium	52.77-52.81
Denmark	9.3950-9.4000
West Germany	2.5880-2.5890
Portugal	123.50-124.50
Spain	150.65-150.75
Italy	1576.25-1577.25
Norway	7.3100-7.3130
France	7.9070-7.9120
Sweden	7.7700-7.7730
Japan	232.35-232.45
Austria	18.19-18.20
Switzerland	2.1035-2.1050

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8125-0.8128

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 9-10: seven days, 9⅜-9⅛: one month, 9⅜-9⅛: three months, 9⅝-9½: six months, 9⅞-9¾.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $390 (an ounce): pm, $389.75 close, $393-£262.25.

Krugerrand* (per coin): $404-405.5 (£269.50-270.50).

Sovereigns* (new): $91.50-92.50 (£61-61.75).

* Excludes VAT

هكذا من الاصل

FOOTBALL: SLEEPLESS NIGHTS LIE IN WAIT FOR LIVERPOOL, HAMBURG AND RANGERS

Crowned heads of Europe nod into the arms of Morpheus

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Cracks have appeared in the security systems of the traditional European Cup strongholds. For the last decade the most prized Continental trophy has been kept within the vaults of England and West Germany but both of thheir representatives, Liverpool and particularly Hamburg, were caught off guard on Wednesday night.

It was as though Liverpool were lying in the arms of Morpheus. No one could recall a more subdued performance at Anfield, usually a noisy arena that became as quiet as the city streets at Dawn. They eventually awoke to the possibilities but failed to prevent Athletic Bilbao stealing away with the advantage of a goalless draw.

Liverpool had enough possession (Kennedy, their left back, could not remember a game when he had gone forward so often) but lacked penetration. Joe Fagan, their manager, remains optimistic about the eventual outcome but only one foreign side, Ferencvaros, have won in Bilbao and that was 15 years ago.

Even a firework that exploded next to Hamburg's bench did not rouse the holders from their slumber during a second-round tie that was held up for three minutes. They must now score four times without reply at home to Dynamo Bucharest, yet they and Liverpool may be inspired by memories that are still fresh.

Three seasons ago Liverpool responded to a similarly disappointing result against Bayern Munich (whose captain, Breitner, fuelled their determination by calling them "stupid") to reach the final and claim the title for the third time. In the semi-final the year before Hamburg, two down to Real Madrid, recovered with the help of Keegan to win 5-3 on aggregate.

Enfica, the other former champions among the last 16, would also be in greater danger of going out had Anastopoulos, the scorer of the only goal for Olympic Piraeus, not later missed a penalty. Roma, conquerors of CSKA Sofia, whose recent victis have included Liverpool an Nottingham Forest, are the new favourites.

The fear of Apanish violence may have proved unfounded at Anfield but Barcelona maintained their appalling disciplinary dreord in their Cup Winners' Cup tie at Nijmegen. Migueli, one of seven players to be booked during the disgraceful Super Cup final against Aston Villa nine months ago when another two of their number were sent off, was dismissed for butting an opponent.

Three of his colleagues were also cautioned but Barcelona's ugly methods paid off. Nijmegen, two up at one stage, then conceded three themselves, including an own goal. Ron Atkinson, who saw his Manchester United side dismiss the challenge of Spartak Varna in Bulgaria, will scarcely relish the prospect of meeting the Spaniards on a dark night next March.

The odds on one English club facing another in the next round of the UEFA Cup have shortened. Of the four survivors, only Watford are unlikely to go through. Graham Taylor, forced to select "a bunch of kids" who drew with Levski Spartak, admits that the sale of Blissett for £1m may have cost his team a place in the last 16.

Nottingham Forest strengthened their position through Walsh's penalty against PSV Eindhoven in the closing moments but Tottenham Hotspur and Aston Villa weakened their hopes by conceding late goals. Villa's draw in Moscow was still admirable, thougyh two distant spectators were disappointed Alexander Alexandrov and Vladimir Lyakov, the cosmonauts in Orbit in Salyut 7, watched the match live on television.

Hoddle's display for Tottenham was appropriately described by his manager, Keith Burkinshaw, as "out of this world". It was studied at closer quarters by Cruyff, who thought he was superb" in the 4-2 win over Feyenoord. "I have thought for a long time that he is the best player in England."

The most remarkable tale emerged from Groningen's stunning triumph over Inter Milan. Their crucial second goal was scored by Ahmad Fandi, who hails from Singapore and is troubled by cold feet. Before each game he warms them with a special lotion sent over by an uncle. The treatment works. The hot shot has claimed three in two European matches.

Rangers return looking frail

By Hugh Taylor

Considering the tribulations which have afflicted him in a traumatic season, John Greig was surprisingly philosophical over the latest calamity to descend on Rangers and blight their hopes of winning the European Cup Winners' Cup tie with the impressive FC Porto.

While the supporters were still bemoaning the horrific mistake by the veteran goalkeeper, McCloy, which made the gift to the lively Portuguese team of a crucial away goal in the dying minutes on Wednesday night the Rangers manager was pointing to past successes to underline his belief that his team have a future in Europe this season.

Although Rangers now travel to the second leg in Portugal fraught with worries because they have only a slender 2-1 lead, Gerig remains defiant. He said: "When we won the tournament in 1972 we went to Sporting Lisbon just 3-2 ahead from the first game and won through. After All, we should remember that we beat a first-class side." Realistically, the erratic display of Rangers at Ibrox produced no evidence to show that they are efficient enough to contain the excellent Porto side on their own territory.

The fragile Rangers defence looked ill at ease as the Portuguese turned on a stunning display in the second hald and on their own ground, Porto will be even more menacing. On a night of black comedy which allowed Rangers, somewhat undeservedly, to score the second of their goals. This was followed a minute later by an equally inept effort to clear his lines by McCloy and that allowed Porto their goal. McCloy has been dropped from tomorrow's match against Motherwell.

With Celtic beaten 2-1 in Lisbon by Sporting in the UEFA Cup and, in the words of their manager, David Hay, "dead lucky to get away with losing only two goals", hopes of a return of European glory for Losbon, the city in which they become the first British club to win the European Cup, were erased by Sporting who struck with devastating effect.

The Celtic defence failed to cope with the speedy forays of the outstanding attackers, Jordaõ and Oliveira, and Hay was in no mood yesterday to diminish the magnitude of thetask facing his team in the second round at Parkhead.

He was stunned by the way Sporting so easily pierced the Celtic defence but said that only old time Parkhead aggression from the start could save the tie for his club in the second leg. Now it looks as though the new firm of Aberdeen and Dundee United, who put Celtic and Rangers in the shade in Scottish competition last year, will take over as the country's champions in Europe.

Both played with style and patience to return satisfactory results in away ties, Dundee United drawing 0-0 with Standard Liège in the European Cup and Aberdeen reganing composure and, in the defence of their Cup Winners' Cup, going into the second leg at Pittodrie also with a 0-0 draw to their credit against the undefeated Belgian league leaders Beveren.

RESULTS

EUROPEAN CUP: Second round, first leg: Liverpool 0, Athletic Bilbao 0; Standard Liège 0, Dundee United 0; Dynamo Bucharest 3, Hamburg 0; CSKA Sofia 0, Roma 1; Vasas 3, Dynamo Minsk 6; Olympiakos 1, Benfica 0; Dynamo Berlin 2, Partizan Belgrade 0; Bohemians 2, Rapid Vienna 1.
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Second round, first leg: Beveren 0, Aberdeen 0; Rangers 2, Porto 1; Spartak Varna 1, Manchester United 1; Ujpest Dozsa 3, Cologne 1; Shakhtyor Donetski 1, Servette 0; Hammarby 1, Valeka Haka 1; Paris St-Germain 2, Juventus 2; NEC Nijmegen 2, Barcelona 2.
UEFA CUP: Second round, first leg: PSV Eindhoven 1, Nottingham Forest 2; Spartak Moscow 2, Aston Villa 2; Sporting Lisbon 2, Celtic 0; Tottenham Hotspur 4, Feyenoord 2; Watford 1, Levski Spartak 1; Solonica 0, Bayern Munich 0; Honved 3, Hajduk Split 2; Lokomotiv Leipzig 1, Werder Bremen 0; Widzew Lodz 1, Sparta Prague 0; Austria Vienna 2, Laval 0; Radnicki Nis 4, Inter Bratislava 0; Sparta 3, Carl Ziess Jena 2; Lens 2, Antwerp 2; Groningen 2, Internazionale 0; Anderlecht 2, Banik Ostrava 0; Verona 2, Sturm Graz 2.

Why the sky-blue strip of Manchester has a McNeill tartan border

The citizens may yet come to praise the still ambitious Caesar

When Peter Swales met Billy McNeill in Carlisle a few months ago in his search for Manchester City's fifth manager in almost as many years, the talk inevitably turned to the question of money for the purchase of new players in the second division – or, rather, the now embarrassing lack of it.

McNeill, probably the most outstanding club captain in Britain other than Danny Blanchflower during the modern era of European football, was accustomed as Celtic's manager to handling notable players. Now he mentioned to Swales a possible player of whom the chairman had never even heard. Well, Mr Swales thought to himself, with a silent, sardonic laugh, at least that's an encouraging start economically.

It was no more than 18 months since City, the 1982 FA cup finalists, had defeated Wolverhampton at Maine Road at Christmas to lead the first division, only to slide into an accelerating decline precipitated by gross overspending: first by Malcolm Allison and then John Bond. When Trevor Francis went ot Italy in a panic sale just before the start of last season, economies at Maine Road were needed not merely to meet the wages but the gas bill. As McNeill says: "The worry was, when would the slide stop? You have to level out before you can start going up again".

It was hardly a casino of optimism which Swales was offering McNeill. The bank had closed on the well-intentioned but absurdly over-priced bid to usurp Manchester United's envied position as *the top team in town. City, 17 years on,* were back where they came from with the original Mercer-Allison partnership.

If Mr Swales, relatively new to senior football, had erred in supporting the crippling expenditure on players such as Robinson from Preston – an estimation by the reengaged Allison now seen at Liverpool to have been justified – and Daley and Francis, his saving grace was that he does passionately believe in Manchester City; that of all chairmen who have allowed a club to overreach themselves, he does not appear to be seeking personal gain, undemonstratively leaving his manager to manage from day to day.

Now, for the first time, he may have the right man. There are one or two who have likened McNeill's quiet, personable attitude to Busby's in the early days: he laughs easily and unaffectedly and, as someone who won the European Cup, nine league championships, five Scottish Cups and five League Cups, he retains a refreshing belief that to any sensible player the game is more important than the money. "Maybe the money matters but there has to be a balance." That he himself left Celtic on financial differences was untypical.

The player whom he mentioned in Carlisle was Jim Tolmie, a promising Scottish striker rescued from an unhappy two years with Lokeren in Belgium, where he at times played full back. If that was a shrewd buy for only £35,000 so, at the same price, was Neil McNab, a midfield player who, as they say, can make the ball talk, but had successively squandered his wide-ranging ability at Tottenham and Brighton. "Now, married and with two children, he realizes the time has come to stop people questioning whether he does have skill," McNeill said.

With Derek Parlane, a free transfer from Leeds, the top scorer, and three other free transfers, including two Scotsmen, it might be thought that, together with his assistant manager, Jimmy Frizzell, formerly of Oldham, McNeill was bent on changing City's colours from sky-blue to tartan. He denies that it has been a conscious decision.

"Maybe some people thought that perhaps I felt more confident dealing with Scots, but with the limited funds available I had to go for value for money. They are all giving it. I certainly would not want to develop a speccially Scottish side. What I have found her is that there is a patience, among the players and the public, that you don't get in Scotland. We tend up there to lean more on the individual because we are anxious for things to happen in more of a hurry though, having said that, I think Aberdeen won the Cup Winners' Cup because they developed a patient build-up."

As Celtic's captain he earned the nickname of Caesar and he has shown himself willing to rule having moved south. When MacDonald and Bodak were discovered out drinking at 1.00 on the morning of a preseason match they were dismissed. He believes in discipline work. Mr Swales observes: "In four months I have never been to the club when he was not busy. He certainly is a worker."

After retiring as player McNeill left the game, subsequently returned as manager with Clyde, then moved to Aberdeen, whom he took to second place in the premier division, and eventually moved back to Celtic, where he concentrated on developing young players, such as Charlie Nicholas and Paul McStay. These players carry some of Scotland's World Cup ambitions in a team eliminated from the European finals.



McNeill: a trump card called patience

McNeill rightly considers that the European Championship is often an impediment to international managers, obstructiong World Cup preparation, and he thinks that Jock Stein may be fortunate to have the pressure off him – which is certainly not the case at Maine Road.

"There is so much to be done, both with players and the club, and it will take a lot of time. Of course, we will have to try to move towards promotion, but you need to look beyond that, to having stability when you get back in the first division. We need to develop our own resources beneath the first team. Because the club went out buying expensive players, the juniors lost impetus, they could not see a way into the first team, and that has to be restored. I found the same situation at Celtic when I returned. It so often happens when a club has been a long while at the top."

If McNeill takes the headlines away from Ron Atkinson we can be sure the extravagance will come from his team rather than himself. He is one of those who considers God was mischievous in allowing the Scots to invent whisky and at Maine Road he wants the champagne to be on the pitch.

David Miller

Cattlin not to be drawn on Melia resignation

Brighton are unlikely as yet to appoint a manager to succeed Jimmy Melia, who resigned on Wednesday five months after leading them to the FA Cup final. The chief coach, Chris Cattlin, will have full responsibility for team selection and playing staff, but will not be given the manager's tital.

Melia blamed a personality clash for his decision, but Cattlin refused to be drawn yesterday. He said: "Things have been said which are upsetting to myself and my family. But all who know me after my 17 years in football, including 10 in the first division with Coventry, will form their own views. I can say, however, that I was appointed coach with Melia's full knowledge and approval."

Cattlin retired from playing three years ago and built a successful seaside rock business before rejoining Brighton as coach during the summer.

"I wouldn't go to any other club and if released from this job I would still stay in the town," he said. "I want to get Brighton back into the first division and into Europe. My thoughts are simple – we must entertain. I love football and feel it is time the game was given back to the supporters."

He wants two more experienced players to bring his first team squad up to strength.

The lonely road from Brentford for Harris

Ron Harris has lost his job as player-coach at Brentford, a few days after leading the third division club's Milk Cup challenge against Liverpool, the champions.

A statement from Brentford read: "Following discussions between Brentford chairman Martin Lange and player-coach Ron Harris this morning, the association of Harris and the club has been terminated by mutual consent".

Harris, 39 next month, joined the club in 1980 after 20 years at Chelsea, to coach the reserves and juniors, but continued to play. He helped Brentford to the fourth round of the Milk Cup last season when they finished ninth. His last appearance was on Saturday at home to Hull.

Brentford, however, have struggled this season, slumping to 18th with only two wins in ten games, and despite Harris's efforts they are sliding out of the Milk Cup, trailing 4-1 for next week's second leg at Anfield.

Harris said "The way things have been going down there the last few weeks this is not a surprise. But at the moment I do not really want to add to the club statement, but I might have something to say later."

● Don Megson became the latest manager to lose his job this week when he decided to quit at Bournemouth yesterday.

Eastoe's goal is in vain

Peter Eastoe, on loan from West Bromwich, scored his first goal for Leicester City on Wednessay night but they stayed bottom of division one after losing 3-1 to Norwich City at Carrow Road.

Eastoe's goal gave Leicester, still without a win this season, a 31st minute lead, but Louie Donowa equalised and Bertschin, playing his 100th match for Norwich, made it 2-1 on the hour. Channon added a penalty eight minutes from time.

Newcastle went second in division two by beating Cardiff 2-0 with goals from Keegan and Beardsley, while third division leaders Oxford United, put up for sale earlier in the day by chairman Robert Maxwell, beat Bradford 2-0, with goals from Hebberd.

Wednesday's results

FIRST DIVISION: Norwich City 3, Leicester City 1.
SECOND DIVISION: Cardiff City 0, Newcastle United 2.
THIRD DIVISION: Oxford United 2, Bradford City 0.
FOURTH DIVISON: Hartlepool United 1, Chester 1; Hereford United 1, Darlington 0; Reading 4, Mansfield Town 0.
OLYMPIC GAMES (Qualifying match): Asian Group Three: India 4, Indonesia 0.
ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Boston United 3, Kettering 1
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Oswestry 0, Marine 4; Worksop 3, Chorley 1. Postponed: Burton Albion v Rhyl.
CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Bolton 2, Blackburn 4; Sheffield United 2, Sunderland 0. Postponed: Aston Villa v Nottingham Forest; Newcastle United v West Bromwich Albion. Second division: Barnsley 3, Grimsby 4; Chesterfield 4, Port Vale 0; Oldham 4, Huddersfield 3.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Second Division Molesey 1, Dorking 2.
ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Edgware 0, Harefield 0.
MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Portsmouth 5, Brentford 2.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Southern Amateur League XI 4, Oxford University 0.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying rounds: South-East: Brunel 3, University College of London 2. Other result: Warwick 4, Aston 0; Birmingham 0, Loughborough 5.
CENTENARY MATCH: Middlesex FA 0, FA XI 0.
FA CUP: Third qualifying round replays: VS Rugby 1, Chelmsford 2 (aet); Whitby 7, Lancaster 3; Waterlooville 3, Totton 0.
RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Bedford 20, Cambridge University 16; Maesteg 42, Mid-Glamorgan 18; Oxford University 7, Leicester 38; Reading University 6, St Mary's College 12; Pontypool 9, Cardiff 10; Pontypridd 6, Ebbw Vale 14; Roundhay 15, Durham City 4.
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Castleford 16, Oldham 18; Wigan 20, Leeds 6; Widnes 40, Featherstone 4.

Writ in lieu of written word

By Paul Newman

Don Masson, dismissed as manager of Kettering Town, is planning to sue the Alliance Premier League club for what he claims has been a breach of contract. The former Notts County and Tottenham midfield player, who was appointed manager only six months ago, claims he has a "verbal agreement" with the Kettering chairman, John Murphy, although he admits he did not have a written contract.

Mr Murphy said that Masson had been dismissed because of the side's disappointing results and Masson's "controversial ideas" on management. In particular, he was unhappy at the lack of training given to the players. Masson said, however, "You employ a manager to do what he thinks necessary for the team. We were playing two matches a week from the start of the season and players need to rest between matches. What's more, these players have got jobs to do outside football."

Kettering lost six of their first eight league matches this season but Masson say he was "just getting the team to play the way I wanted them to." In Masson's last weeks in charge Kettering beat the league champions, Enfield, at home and held them to a draw away and knocked Nuneaton Borough, the current league leaders, out of the Bob Lord Trophy.

Masson had largely rebuilt the Kettering side and had signed several players with Football League experience, including David Needham, Les Bradd, Peter Denyer and Arthur Mann, who have now joined Boston United. Needham and Denyer are acting as joint caretaker managers, but Masson's position is unlikely to be filled permanently from within the club.

Telford United, who sold their captain, Alan Walker, to Lincoln City for £20,000 last week, are unlikely to spend the money in the transfer market. Stan Storton, the Alliance League club's manager, said: "We've been feeling the pinch like nearly every other club, although we weren't forced to sell Alan for financial reasons. I am hoping we can fill the gap left by his departure from within the club."

Another Alliance club Altrincham, have signed Trevor Dance, a goalkeeper, from Stafford Rangers for a four figure fee. Stafford signed Dance from Port Vale for £10,000 three years ago. Scarborough, also from the Alliance League, have signed Andy Crawford the former Derby County, Blackburn Rovers and Bournemouth forward. Crawford made nine appearances for Cardiff City during a trial period at the start of the season.

Tommy Spencer, assistant manager to John Saunders, at Worksop Town, has been appointed team manager. Saunders has been made general manager. Hyde United, another Northern Premier League club, have sold George Oghani, a winger, to Bolton Wanderers for £3,000. They will receive a further £2,000 after Oghani has made 15 first team appearances.

Beau Reynolds, who was appointed chairman of Leatherhead on Monday, hopes to bring a new manager to the struggling Isthmian League club within the next week. Mickey Cook, the present player-manager, will be invited to remain as a player and may be offered some coaching or managerial responsibilities.

Mr Reynolds, a former chairman of Wimbledon, has already opened discussions with two former Football League players. They are Alan Whittle, the former Everton and Crystal Palace forward, who has returned to Britain after two years in Australia, and Mick Leach, the former Queen's Park Rangers player, who last year assisted Dave Bassett, the Wimbledon manager, and is now running a gymnasium.

Leatherhead were relegated from the Isthmian League premier division last season and have made little impact in the first division. Joe Fascione, the coach resigned last week after Leatherhead's 4–0 defeat at home to Fisher Athletic in the FA Cup.

Outlook for Cowans is brighter

Gordon Cowans, the Aston Villa and England midfield player, who is recovering from a broken leg, hopes to play reserve team football by early December. Villa, who gained an impressive 2-2 UEFA Cup draw against Moscow Spartak, learnt on their return from th Soviet Union that Cowans was making better progress than expected after breaking his right leg in a pre-season game in Spain.

The latest X-ray tests show that the bone is mending well. Specialists say that the lightweight plaster can be removed two weeks earlier than at first thought.

A night out at a local hotel has sidelined Paul Johnson, the Shrewsbury defender, for the next six weeks. While accompany his colleagues and club officials to a testimonial dinner for the manager, Graham Turner, he slipped on a step and fractured a bone in his right foot.

York in the black

York City, who narrowly missed promotion from the fourth division last season, yesterday announced a profit of £9,252 for the year ended June 30.

TENNIS

Authoritative Miss Durie takes chances to reach last eight

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Susan Barker and Joanna Durie, Britain's last challengers for the singles title, have produced exciting performances on consecutive days to reach the last eight of the Daihatsu tournament at the Brighton Centre. Yesterday it was Miss Durie's turn. She took only 56 minutes to win 6-4, 6-1 against an experienced, beefy left-hander from Switzerland, Petra Delhees.

The impressive thing was the authority with which Miss Barker and Miss Durie exaggerated an expected superiority. Miss Delhees looked sharper yesterday than she had done against Amanda Brown in the first round. She held Miss Durie as far as 4-4 in the first set. Then it became clear that Miss Delhees was comparatively shaky on the backhand an that only Miss Durie could improve on the level of performance each had previously attained.

These are unusually large players with a boisterous approach to tennis. Some rallies raised images of heavyweight fighters slugging away at each other with more freedom than discretion. That was fun. Miss Durie was more consistently competent at almost everything. Perhaps the most heartening feature was that – because of her agility, quick reactions, and willingness to take chances – she was flexible enough to improvise startling winners at times when Miss Delhees seemed to have the initiative.

Miss Durie towers over her next opponent – Ann Kiyomura, a Californian of Japanese descent – by almost a foot. Miss Kiyomura is gentle and serene, but clever too. Anyone that small cannot get far in tennis without being shrewd and neat. Miss Kiyomura is both.

Miss Kiyomura won 6-2, 6-2 against a sturdy French left hander, Nathalie Herreman, aged 17, whose strokes suggest that she could be a fine player if attentive to the lessons opponents like Miss Kiyomura can teach her. This match had much in common with another: that in which little Mima Jausovec, seeded seventh, who hails from the south of France and at the age of 18 is already almost 5ft 9in tall.

In the French championships Miss Tanvier beat Virginia Ruzici but took only six games from Miss Jausovec. The difference yesterday lay largely in the fact that Miss Jausovec played three hours and 40 minutes of singles and doubles the previous day, eventually wrenched some back muscles, yet was on court again – physically and tacticly inhibited – less than 13 hours after she had left it.



Joyous Catherine Tanvier. (Photograph: Chris Cole)

It was thrilling to see Miss Jausovec craftily nudging the ball this way and that in an attempt to achieve a triumph of mind over muscle. In the second set she had three set points. But this was Miss Tanvier's day: and what joyous company she was. A charming blonde strikingly dressed in red, she walked with the hint of a confident swagger prevalent among natuarl athletes (and all attractive young French women) and played with a panache that created its own turbulence.

Miss Tanvier's aggressive game demands the sustenance of more penetrating approach shots. But some of her low volleys were superb and in the decisive tie-break three forehand volleys, a disparate trio in pace and direction, put the stamp of class on a fine performance that may worry her next opponent, Chris Lloyd.

Miss Tanvier was young and lovely and adventurours and wonderfully talented – and the younger Pascale Paradis looks even more promising. These are exciting days for French tennis.

SECOND ROUND: C Tanvier (Fr) bt M Jausovec (Yugl, 7-5, 7-6; J Durie bt A Kiyomura (US) bt N Herreman (Fr), 6-2, 6-2.

VIENNA: Grand Prix tournament (US unless stated): First Round: A Jarryd (Swe) bt E Iskersky, 6-1, 3-6, 6-1; B Mitton (SA) bt P Slozil (Cz), 6-7, 6-3, 6-2; S Lipton bt J Borowiak, 6-3, 6-3. Second Round: B Gottfried bt T Wilkison, 6-3, 6-4.
MELBOURNE: Doubles Challenge (US unless stated): I Lendl (Cz) and S Denton bt K Warwick and R Case (Aus), 6-3, 7-6; F Taygan and F Buehning bt S Stewart and C Hooper, 6-7, 6-3, 6-4.

GOLF

Ballesteros falls prey to trigger-happy hunters

From a Special Correspondent, Malaga

In the early seventies Tony Jacklin had to put up with the distraction of enthusiastic but, in the golfing sense, uneducated photographers, especially when he played on the continent. Now they have a new target – Severiano Ballesteros.

Unaware of the subtleties of the game, photographers apparently used to covering holiday stories on the Costa Del Sol were moving jerkily around their new prey, frequently ignoring the golden golfing rule to "click" only after a player has hit his shot.

In the Benson & Hedges Spanish Open, Ballesteros, two under at the turn, twice took three putts on his inward nine. Then, his concentration ruined by the frantic photographers, he went to tap in backhanded a putt of just one inch at the fourth – his 13th hole – and bought a gasp from the holiday crowd as he missed not only the hole, but the ball, in circumstances very similar to those Hale Irwin experienced in the Open championship at Birkdale.

Irwin's miss may well have cost him the title which was won by Tom Watson. Ballesteros's slip might not be so costly because it made him concentrate his mind so effectively that he closed with five birdies and very nearly finished the day in the lead.

Ahead of him on 67 were Ireland's Eamonn Darcy, who putted well after his recent bout of influenza, and Simon Bishop, who has made £6,500 in unofficial events within the last three weeks. The highlight of his performance was a four hole run which included three birdies and an eagle from the sixth, and his score will nourish his belief that he can move from 87th in the money list into the top 60 by the end of the season in three weeks' time. Top 60 rating guarantees automatic qualification for 1984 into all tournaments.

Neil Coles, chairman of the European PGA tour but an infrequent competitor this year, shot 71 in an event involving only four of last week's Ryder Cup team.

Larger than usual holiday crowds were out to watch *Ballesteros*, who needs to win here and in Barcelona next week to overhaul Nick Faldo at the top of the European money list.

Defending champion Sam Torrance scored 72 to establish himself five shots off the lead.

SCORES: (British unless stated): 67, E Darcy (Ireland), S Bishop; 68, A Johnstone (Zimbabwe), S Ballesteros (Spain); 69, J Morgan, P Tupling; 70, M Slater, M McLean, D Jones, P Curry, C Mason, M Montes (Spain), R Chapman, J Gonzalez, (Brazil).
69, G Ralph, P Tupling; 70, P Curry.

SNOOKER

All square when it was all but lost

Joe Johnson and Willie Thorne showed their fighting qualities to save themselves in their respective Professional Players snooker tournament semi-finals at Bristol yesterday.

Johnson trailed 4-0 to Tony Meo before taking the next four frames in a row. And Thorne trailed 3-0 to Tony Knowles before hitting back also to 4-frames-all at the half-way stage of their best-of-17 frames semi-finals.

Alex Higgins has changed his mind and will play in the Northern Ireland snooker team in the State Express world team classic beginning at Reading tomorrow.

Higgins, the team captain, pulled out on Sunday as Del Simmons, his manager, blamed Higgin's decision on lack of form and personal problems.

Yesterday Higgins said: "I realized I was being unfair on the team. I was moved when I read that my team-mate Dennis Taylor had said that even an out-of-form Alex Higgins was an asset to the team.

QUARTER FINAL ROUND: T Knowles bt J Campbell (Aust), 5-3; T Meo bt K Stevens (Can), 5-3.
SEMI–FINAL: T Meo (Morden) and J Johnson (Bradford) level 4-4; T. Knowles (Bolton) and W Thorne (Leicester) level 4-4.

CRICKET

Roberts will miss first Test

Kanpur (Reuter) – Andy Roberts, the West Indies fast bowler, strained a back muscle during practice yesterday and will miss the first Test match against India, which starts today.

West Indies include in their 12 two uncapped players, Roger Harper and Eldine Baptiste, both all-rounders. Harper, who captained the West Indies youth side on their tour of England in 1982, is an off-spinner and Baptiste bowls fast-medium. The state of the pitch will decide who becomes twelfth man.

Roberts, who had an operation on his right knee just before leaving the Caribbean, was the main wicket-taker when West Indies played India at home earlier this year.

INDIA (from): Kapil Dev (captain), S M Gavaskar, A D Gaekwad, M Amarnath, D B Vengsarkar, S M Patil, Yashpal Sharma, R J Shastri, R M H Binny, S Madan Lal, Kirti Azad, S M H Kirmani, B S Sandhu, R Bhat.
WEST INDIES (from): C H Lloyd (captain), C G Greenidge, D L Haynes, I V A Richards, H A Gomes, A L Logie, P J Dujon, E A E Baptiste, R A Harper, M D Marshall, M A Holding, W W Davis.

● BRISBANE: Imran Khan, the Pakistan captain, should be fit to bowl in the second Test match against Australia, starting here on November 25, after receiving encouraging news from a Brisbane orthopaedic specialist concerning a stress fracture of his left shin.

Dr Fergus Wilson told him to take a complete rest for 15 days. That means he will miss the first three tour matches and not be able to resume playing until the match with Western Australia on November 4.

Roberts: back injury

Boycott saga continues

Worcestershire have not ruled out the possibility of offering Geoff Boycott, who has been dismissed by Yorkshire, a contract in 1984. Their cricket committee discussed signing Boycott during a meeting lasting three hours 40 minutes, on Wednesday evening.

Afterwards, the county secretary, Mike Vockins, said: "Whilst the committee believe that there is still a need to sign an experienced player, they do not anticipate making any imminent moves in this direction." He refused to be drawn any further.

It seems possible that Worcestershire may be awaiting the outcome of efforts by Boycott's supporters to have the player reinstated at Yorkshire, before deciding whether to make an approach.

● Over 150 Kent cricketers aged 14 to 18, are to take part in a new winter coaching scheme, sponsored by the Woolwich Building Society. Over each of the next three years, a 20-week programme will be organized by Page, the director of youth coaching for Kent. Page said: "It is in the best interests of the club to have a strong, successful and above all enthusiastic appraoach to young cricketers in the county. This is especially important following the recent introduction of regulations concerning overseas players.

Full speed ahead

England's four fast bowlers for the winter tour of New Zealand and Parkistan satisfied the manager Alan Smith of their fitness in the nets at Edgbaston this week.

Willis, Dilley, Cowans and Foster were called together to ensure that they were maintaining condition during the longer than usual break between the end of last season and the departure of the team on December 29.

Smith said: "It was a very useful exercise. We are very happy with the preparation of all our fast bowlers.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: AFA XI 2, Cambridge University 2.

FA VASE: Preliminary round, second replay: Worsborough Bridge 1, Barton Town 3.

BOXING

LAS VEGAS: WBC light-welterweight championship: Bruce Curry (US) bt Leroy Haley (US), pts.
ROME: World Cup, quarter-finals: Flyweight: P Reyes (N America/Cuba) bt J Varadi (Europe 2/Hung), pts; P Lessoc (Europe 1/Bul) bt D Lauretta (It), pts; Young Mo Huh (Asia 1/S Kor) bt I Bilali (Africa 1/Ken), stopped 1st; J Fenech (Oceania/Aus) bt A Diaz (S America/Col), pts. Bantam: J Pool (S America/Ven) bt J Siryakibre (Africa 1/Uga), pts; S Terapon (Asia 2/Thai) wo J Kpakpo (Gha), scr; M Stecca (It) bt Sung Kil Moon (Asia 1/Korea), pts; Y Alexandrov (Europe 1/USSR) bt S Buzoll (Europe 2/Yug), pts. Lightweight: M Rogers (Oceania/Aus) wo A Armatello (Africa 2/Gha), scr; R Goire (N America/Cuba) bt V Demyanenko (Europe 2/USSR), stopped: Chil Sung Yun (Asia 1/Kor) bt P Omondi (Africa 1/Ken), pts. Middle: V Hill (N America/US) bt D Maricescu (Europe 1/Rom), pts; N Cruciani (It) bt J Amir (Asia 2/Iraq), pts; N Redzepi (Europe 2/Yug) wo Z Bokari (Africa 2/Ghana), scr: Joon Sup-Shim (Asia 1/S Kor) bt P Gamarro (S America/Ven), pts. Light-Heavy: R R Womack (N America/US) bt Ho-Soo Lee (Asia 1/S Korea), pts; K Usmail (Asia 2/Iraq) bt A Manfredini (It), pts; V Kacianowski (Europe 1) bt K Berry (Oceania/NZ), 2pts.

CRICKET

MUTARE: Young Zimbabwe 200 (G Wallace 74; C Walsh 5 for 52, R Estwick 3 for 43) and 172 (A van Eeden 40; C Butts 5 for 46); Young West Indies 215 (S Julien 67, Timur Mohamed 43; G Hick 3 for 21, M Jarvis 3 for 82) and 169 for 5 (Julien 72). Young West Indies won by five wickets.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 3, Calgary Flames 1; Detroit Red Wings 4, St Louis Blues 2; Hartford Whalers 3, Washington Capitals 0; Quebec Nordiques 8, Toronto Maple Leafs 1; Chicago Black Hawks 6, New Jersey Devils 3; Montreal Canadiens 12, Winnipeg Jets 2; Edmonton Oilers 10, Vancouver Canucks 7

RACKETS

SCHOOLS MATCH: Haileybury 2, Marlborough 0 (Haileybury names first): S R A Miller and R R W Bonallack bt J Heald and N Bryant, 15-2, 15-10, 15-8, 15-5; S W D Heck and J W Symonds bt J Barker and C Habanenanda, 15-11, 15-7, 15-7, 15-3.

Eton bt Charterhouse 2-1 (Eton names first): P Baily and M Small bt R Allan and H Ford, 12-15, 13-7, 15-2, 15-5, 15-3. M Hue Williams and J Howard bt A Ramsay and A Vincent, 15-0, 15-5, 17-14, 8-15, 15-0; L Sheffield and P Smith-Bingham lost to D Harmer and H Taylor, 4-15, 10-15, 15-11, 12-15, 14-16

RUGBY UNION

LAQUILA: Italy B 0, Australia 26.
SCHOOLS MATCH: St. David's, Llandudno 8, Rossall 0.

IN BRIEF

RUGBY LEAGUE: York have signed Kevin Brettell, aged 21, a hooker from the amateur club Hull Dockers. He has been on trial since the start of the season.

BOXING: Two British champions have been given north American opponents for their next bouts. Welterweight Lloyd Honeyghan, of Bermondsey, is in action on Monday against Harold Brazier, from Indianapolis, at the National Sporting Club, London. Flyweigth Kelvin Smart will meet the Canadian Ian Clyde at St David's Hall, Cardiff, on November 29.

MOTOR RACING: Tony Bottoms, aged 24, will receive £30,000 sponsorship from Marlboro in next year's Formula Ford season after being selected as most promising young driver at Siverstone yesterday in the final trials of the company's nationwide competition in which 1300 applicants were tested.

GOLF: Terry Gale took a first round lead in yesterday's New South Wales Open in Sydney with a round of 70, the only below par total achieved in a high wind.

RACING: DICKINSON TO COMPLETE DOUBLE WITH FORMER IRISH STEEPLECHASER

The Mighty Mac set to show old zest again

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

After a spring, summer and autumn spent Flat racing, watching some high-class jumping at Newbury this afternoon will be like a breath of fresh air. Four of the races have been sponsored, with pride of place going to the Glynwed International Steeplechase.

Observe won this race 12 months ago when it was known as the Hermitage Steeplechase. On that occasion he carried 10st 7lb. Now he has to hump 12st and he will be meeting Dramatist, who finished third to him last year on 35lb worse terms fo three and a half lengths. In the circumstances, Dramatist, who has such a fine record over the course will never have a better opportunity of adding to his tally.

Dramatist though may be thwarted by The Mighty Mac. A crack steeplechaser in Ireland two and three seasons ago, The Mighty Mac was bitterly disappointing last winter when be was trained in this country by John Edwards. As a result of those numerous failures he has come down considerably in the handicap and now he looks the ideal type for his new trainer, Michael Dickinson, to exploit with his customary skill.

The Dickinson magic already appears to have worked wonders because The Mighty Mac looked something like his old self at Market Rasen a week ago when he won by 20 lengths.

That race will have done him a power of good and it should give him a fitness edge over those who have not run this season as far as peak fitness is concerned. Besides Dramatist, Fulke Walwyn is also saddling Everett who could be a factor in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup here in a month's time.

A run in the Free Handicap Hurdle at Chepstow already this season should also give Permabos an advantage over Connaught River and Jorge Miguel in the Flavel-Leisure Four-year-old Hurdle.

David Nicholson won the Hedgehoppers Hurdle last year with Balanchine who had good form on the flat. Now he has chosen the same occasion to launch a similar sort of horse on his jumping career, Society Boy won the Churchill Stakes at Ascot in June and ran well in a classic trial at Newmarket before that.

Leander Blue, Boreen Daw, Greenwood Lad and Mr Foodbroker are the pick of the runners for the Embassy Premier Steeplechase (Qualifier), Boreen Daw, my selection, won his first race last season, thus showing that he comes to hand easily. He also finished second in the Arkle Challenge Trophy at Cheltenham in March.

Flat racing continues at Doncaster where Henry Cecil introduces a well-bred newcomer Claude Monet in the first division of the Wheatley Park Stakes. Claude Monet, is by the American Triple Crown winner Affirmed and out of Madelia, who won the French 1,000 Guineas and Oaks in her heyday.

It was announced yesterday that, in accordance with the Jockey Club's policy that races should close nearer to the time of running to allow late developing and improving horses the opportunity to enter, the stewards have approved the Flat Race Pattern Committee's recommendations that all early closing pattern races in 1984 should close between six and eight weeks before running.

So the 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas, the Derby and Oaks will now close on February 29 instead of on November 9 this year. The closing date for the 1984 St Leger remains unchanged on July 11.

It has been anticipated that later closing would produce fewer entries, thus reducing the value of the races concerned. So the stewards of the Jockey Club have approved the same committee's other recommendations that racecourses should be allowed to charge increased entrance money for pattern races next year.

Leading National Hunt trainers yesterday joined Sir Ian Trethowan, the chairman of the Levy Board, in welcoming the new Courage Cup, the details of which were announced at Newbury. This will be a three mile handicap steeplechase series featuring eight qualifiers (two of them in Ireland) and a £20,000 added limited handicap final. In all it represents an injection of £50,000 into the sport.

Chepstow, Sandown Park, Cheltenham, Kempton, Wetherby and Doncaster will be the courses where the qualifying races will be run.

One of the Irish qualifiers will be stage at Fairyhouse in November, the other in February at a course still to be decided. The first four finishers in each heat will be eligible for the final which will be staged at Newbury on Saturday, March 24.

Dickinson award

Michael Dickinson, who had the amazing training feat of saddling the first five home in the Cheltenham Gold Cup, has been voted National Hunt trainer of the year in the Horserace writers Association's Derby awards.

The award for the Flat trainer went ot John Dunlop, Willie Carson won the Flat jockey prize for the third time, and John Francome received the National Hunt jockey's award.

Cauthen reaches century in style

By Michael Seely

Steve Cauthen continued his golden 1984 by landing a double for Ian Balding on Insular and Elegant Air at Newbury yesterday. The victory of Elegant Air in the Horris Hill Stakes gave the 23 year-old American jockey his 100th winner of the season and his 407th since his arrival in this country, five years ago. About an hour earlier Cauthen had also gained his first win in the Royal colours when riding Insular in the Great Western Stakes.

As Chris McCarron and Cash Asmussen had shown at Sandown on Wednesday, all American riders are superb judges of pace. And now the same invisible time clock operated in Cauthen's head as he gave a masterly exhibition of waiting in front on both horses.

Elegant Air looked like being beaten for a few strides below the distance as Walter Swinburn launched his attack on My Volga Boatman. But showing typical resolution and stamina Paul Mallon's Shirley Heights colt lengthened his stride to win by two and a half lengths. Round Hill, the 2-1 favourite, finished a neck away third.

"He looked a bit woolly in his coat," said Balding afterwards, "in fact I was in two minds whether to run him I hope that be will stay a mile and a half next year." Like his sire, the mighty Mill Reef, Elegant Air was bred by his owner who was present to watch his colt's victory. Balding also had news of Diamond Shoal. "Unfortunately the horse is lame and will have to miss the Turf classic at Aqueduct. There is a slight chance, however, that he might be right for the Japan Cup in Tokio."

Insular was winning his fourth race in succession for the Queen and will remain in training next season. "There is a lot more fun to be had with him yet", said Lord Porchester, the Royal racing manager. The running of the Great Western Stakes also marked the end of an era. After Orange Reef had finished third to Insular, Jeremy Tree, the three-year-old's trainer said, "That's the last time that you will see the colours of Mr J. H. Whitney carried on a racecourse".

It is now over 50 years since Easter Hero won the Cheltenham Gold Cup and finished second, carryng 12st 7lb, to Gregalach in the 1929 Grand National. Since then the famous pink and black-and-white striped colours have been carried with continual distinction by such talented performers as Royal Minstrel, Swing Easy and D'Urberville.

Michael Jarvis's horses have been in fine form recently and Betsy Bay gave the Newmarket trainer his seventh winner of the month with an authoritative display in the Rochford Thompson Newbury Stakes. "She has done nothing but improve all season", said the trainer afterwards. Jarvis will have received nothing but encouragement from Betsy Bay's victory for the chances of Beldale Lear, who will be attempting to give the trainer his second victory in the William Hill Futurity at Doncaster tomorrow.

John Dunlop's magnificent autumn continued when Lester Piggott rode Cremets to a two lengths win in the second division of the Theale Maiden Stakes. Piggott is now only ten behind Willie Carson in the fight for the jockeys' title, but the banned leader is due to resume riding on Monday. Dunlop has been carrying all before him in his European raids recently and the Sussex trainer hopes that Aragon will be able to carry on the good work in the Prix de la Foret at Longchamp on Sunday.

Cremets is a full sister to Runnett and like that high-class sprinter was bred by Robert Percival at his stud in Northamptonshire.

Richard Quinn drew level with Michael Hills at the head of the apprentices championship when winning the Round Oak Stakes on Cheri Berry for Bill Wightman. Both boys have now ridden 35 winners apiece. However Quinn, who rides in Florence on Sunday, still has the commanding lead in the Long John Whisky European Apprentices championship.

Tolomeo appeal

The connections of Tolomeo, relegated from second to fourth place in last Saturday's Dubai Champion Stakes, are to appeal against the decision at Jockey Club headquarters in London on Monday.

His owner, Carlo D'Allessio, trainer, Luca Cumani, and jockey, Gianfranco Dfitori have all appealed against the ruling of the Newmarket stewards. Dettori was suspended for eight days after the stewards found him guilty of careless riding.



A royal first: Steve Cauthen clear on the Queen's Insular at Newbury

ATHLETICS

Promise of more money

By Pat Butcher

Two of Britain's athletics governing bodies have voted £125,000 of their profits toward improving the country's lamentable indoor athletics facilities. If the London docklands scheme to convert a huge warehouse into a national indoor arena goes ahead, the Amateur Athletic Association will contribute £100,000, and the Southern Counties AAA £25,000 towards the administrative costs.

The docklands scheme is one of several city centre projects, including Birmingham, Doncaster, Swansea and Slough for indoor arenas. For, despite the talents of such athletes as Steve Cram, Daley Thompson, Sebastian Coe, and Steve Ovett, plus the road running boom – which has brought hundres of thousands of pounds in sponsorship into athletics in recent years – the lack of indoor facilities necessary to maintain the sport's impetus has made Britain a poor relation.

There are almost a hundred indoor arenas and tracks throughout Europe, and twice that number in the United States, but Britain's athletes still have to make do with one 200 metre track in an RAF hanger at Cosford, on the Staffordshire/Shropshire border.

The decision by the committee of the AAA and the Southern Counties AAA to plough back some of the money that they have earned from their athletes' endeavours is a positive step towards improving that situation.

The AAA and its southern area member, however, should not have holes in their bank statements for very long if their offer is taken up. The AAA has arranged two England matches, against Poland and the United States at Cosford in March, The dates have to be rubber-stamped by the European Athletic Association at their calendar conference in Madrid next week, and then there are two sponsors waiting in the wings with around £50,000 for the meetings which are due on March 7 and March 10.

In last year's corresponding match with the United States, extra seats had to be brought in for a crowd of 4,000, and the home athletes responded to the great support by winning by one point, and Seb Coe contributed a new indoor world best in the 800 metres.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Maoris will stretch the amateurs

By Keith Macklin

The weekend bristles with international competition. Tonight the first tour by the New Zealand Maoris begins with a mtch at Graven Park, Hull, against the Humberside League, and on Sunday Queensland make several changes for the second game of their tour at Wigan.

Te British Amatuer Rugby League Association have enjoyed a scoop in inviting the Maoris and the enthusiastic and skilful amateur sides may pay dearly for it against opposition which includes 10 full New Zealand internationals. Among the Maori players is Hugh McGahan, who scored a world record individual total of six tries against Papua-New Guinea. the tour ends with a full amateur international against Great Britain at the Boulevard, Hull, on November 12.

Queensland chop and change their side after the stormy 8-6 defeat against Hull Kingston Rovers last Sunday. The captain and inspiration ofee side, Waly Lewis, moves from stand-off half to centre, Lindenberg taking the half back position. Among the four substitutes allowed in matches during the Queensland tour is an international scrum half, Mark Murray, one of the players who loses his place after Sunday's defeat. "We learnt quite a few lessons from that defeat, and will play a different sort of game on Sunday", the Queensland co-manager, Kevin Brasch, said.

Although Kent Invicta, in desperate financial straits, have had to return their full back and leading scorer, Lynn Hopkins, to Workington Town because of an unpaid transfer fee, Workington have agreed to let Hopkins continue playing for Invicta on loan.

Great Britain will play seven international matches during their tour of Australasia next summer: Australia on June 9 (Sydney), June 23 (Brisbane) and July 7 (Sydney), New Zealand on July 14 (Auckland), and Papua-New Guinea on August 5 (Mount Hagen).

IN BRIEF

RUGBY UNION: Laquila (Reuter) – Glen Ella, one of three aboriginal brothers in the Australian touring team will replace Roger Gould at full back for the Wallabies inaugural international match against Italy in Rovigo tomorrow. Gould aggravated the thigh injury that has plagued him for two months at training in Rome on Monday. The side includes newcomers Mark Harding, at prop and Mark McBain, at Hooker.

TEAM: G Ella; D Campese, A Slack, M Hawker, B Moon; M Ella (captain), D Vaughan; M Harding, M McBain, J Coolican, C Roche, S Williams, D Hillhouse, S Poidevin, D Hall.

● Australia beat Italy's B team 26-0.

BOXING: Rome (Reuter) – Khalil Usmail, the Iraqi light-heavyweight took his tally of wins to 151 when he beat Antonio Manfredini, of Italy, 3-2, in the world amateur boxing cup on Wednesday.

BADMINTON: Rotterdam (Reuter) – Icuk Sugiarto, world badminton champion of Indonesia, and Jens Peter Nierhoff, of Denmark, the European champion, renew their rivalry at the inaugural Dutch Masters tournament opening at the Ahoy stadium here today.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated.

Third division

Millwall v Preston (7.45).

Southend United v Orient.

Fourth division

Doncaster Rovers v Halifax Town.

OTHER SPORT

AMATEUR RUGBY LEAGUE: Tour match: Humberside League v New Zealand Maoris. (Hull Kingston Rovers, 7.15).

RUGBY UNION: Newbridge v Maesteg

TENNIS: Dalhatiu challenge (Brighton).

Newbury

Tote: Double 2.45, 3.45. Treble 2.15, 3.15, 4.15.

[Television (BBC1) 2.15, 2.45, 3.15 and 3.45 races].

1.45 ROSY BROOK CHASE (handicap: £2,443: 3m) (7 runners)

101	U11P41-	BOLD ARGUMENT (D) (M Evans) R Blakeney 10-11-10	R Linley
102	3PF0-02	MID DAY GUN (D) (R Gibbons) J Webber 9-11-13	G McCourt
103	12303P-	LENEY DUAL (CD) (B Brooks) D Nicholson 8-11-3	P Scudamore
105	2F212-1	FREDO (D) (Sir R Wates) J Gifford 10-11-0	R Rowe
106	F212PP-	MUSSO (R E A Bott) F Winter 7-10-11	J Francome
107	P123-01	DON SABREUR (D) (D Pearman) D Pearman 6-10-9 (7 ex)	P Leach
109	8FP310-	KOGA WAY (D) (Mrs J Alford) J Thorne 8-10-0	P Nicholls

2 Mid Day Gun, 5-2 Fredo, 5 Musso, 13-2 Bold Argument, 7 Don Sabreur, 10 Leney Dual, 16 Koga Way.

2.15 EMBASSY PREMIER CHASE (£2,532: 2m 4f) (9)

201	1F0142-	LEANDER BLUE (CD) (Mrs M Rogers) D Nicholson 6-11-12	P Scudamore
203	P20004-	ARC PRINCE (A Goddard) K Bailey 8-11-7	M Perrett
204	101220-	BOREEN DAW (D) (J Gunn) G Kindersley 7-11-7	A Webber
205	1011UF-	GREENWOOD LAD (Mrs A Grantham) J T Gifford 6-11-7	R Rowe
209	10/1132	MR FOODBROKER (Food Brokers Ltd) P Haynes 8-11-7	S Morshead
210	4140/23	PALMYRA-COURT (C Bowden) F Winter 7-11-7	J Francome
212	001F-14	THE STIRRER (Mrs T Mullins) S Pattemore 7-11-7	S Smith Eccles
214	02/1114	WINTERLAND (D) (P Barber) J Thorne 7-11-7	P Nicholls
216	22100-F	THE FLOORLAYER (Beauty Floors) D Elsworth 5-11-4	–

5-2 Mr Foodbroker, 11-4 Greenwood Lad, 4 Leander Blue, 6 Boreen Daw, 8 Palmyra-Court, Winterland, 10 The Stirrer, 12 The Floorlayer, 16 Arc Prince.

FORM: Leander Blue (11-12) 2nd beaten 2l to Western Sunset (level) 13 ran. Wincanton 2m 5f nov chase soft Apr 14. Boreen Daw (11-3) 5th beaten 10l to Gallaher (level) 7 ran. Ascot 2m 4f nov chase soft Apr 6. Greenwood Lad was an erratic jumper last year, when he got round (11-5) won well 15l from Cold Blood (rec 19lb) 13 ran. Warwick 2m nov h'cap chase heavy May 14. Mr Foodbroker (11-3) 2nd beaten ½l to Ryeman (gave 5lb) 8 ran. Liverpool 2m nov chase soft Apr 8 Palmyra-Court (11-4) 3rd beaten 15l to Starfen (level) 8 ran. Ascot 2m nov chase good to soft Jan 14. Winterland (10-7) 4th beaten 11l to Maori Venture (level) 11 ran. Newton Abbot 2m 5f h'cap chase good Oct 11

SELECTION: Boreen Daw

2.45 GLYNWED INTERNATIONAL CHASE (limited handicap: £5,787: 2m 4f) (6)

301	1F1111-	OBSERVE (CD) (A Gretton) F Winter 7-12-0	J Francome
302	222103-	ROYAL JUDGEMENT (CD) (Lady Rootes) J Gifford 10-11-11	R Rowe
303	112PF1-	EVERETT (CD) (K Hennessy) F Walwyn 8-11-6	S Shilston
304	04F20-1	THE MIGHTY MAC (D) (Mrs J Lane) M W Dickinson 8-10-13	Mr D Browne
308	421302-	SAINT TAFFY (D) (Mrs L Dresher) J Webber 7-10-7	G McCourt
311	202323-	DRAMATIST (CD) (L Thwaites) F Walwyn 12-10-7	W Smith

13-8 The Mighty Mac, 3 Observe, 6 Everett, 7 Royal Judgement, 9 Saint Taffy, Dramatist.

FORM: Observe (11-8) won 5l from Henry Kissinger (rec 3lb) 7 ran. Cheltenham 2m 4f chase good to soft Mar 17 Royal Judgement (11-7) 3rd beaten 7½l to Drumlargan (rec 11lb) 15 ran. Sandown 3m 5f h'cap chase soft Apr 23. Everett (11-9) won ½l from Gaye Chance (rec 3lb) 5 ran. Liverpool 3m 1f nov chase soft Apr 7 The Mighty Mac (12-1) won easily 20l from Gambling Prince (rec 8lb) 6 ran. Market Rasen 2m 5f h'cap chase good Oct 14. Saint Taffy (11-8) 2nd beaten 3l to Tiepolo (rec 19lb) 19 ran. Liverpool 2m 6f h'cap chase soft Apr 7. Dramatist (11-6) 3rd beaten 15l to Richmeade (rec 17lb) 7 ran Newbury 2m 4f h'cap chase soft Mar 26.

SELECTION: Observe

3.15 FLAVEL-LEISURE HURDLE (4-y-o: £3,902: 2m 100yd) (12)

401	003002-	CONNAUGHT RIVER (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 11-3	P Scudamore
402	011210-	JORGE MIGUEL (J Fernandes) G Pritchard-Gordon 11-3	Mr S Sherwood
403	0-	DON GIOVANNI (Lord Howard de Walden) F Winter 11-0	J Francome
404	0-12112	DUKE OF DOLLIS (R Simpson) R Simpson 4-11-0	A Webber
406	00-11	GRINGO (D Samuel) N J Henderson 11-0	S Smith Eccles
407	0000-2	IMPLICATION (F Crouch) A Moore 11-0	G Moore
408		LIZMOR (K Hunt) B Champion 11-0	R Rowe
409		LUCKY IVOR (J Christmas) R Head 11-0	R Linley

... (rec 9lb) 11 ran. Plumpton 2m nov hdle good Sep 19. Gringo (11-5) won 1½l from National Image (rec 5lb) 9 ran. Cheltenham 2m nov hdle firm Oct 6. Implication (10-0) 2nd beaten 3l to City Link Express (gave 19lb) 15 ran. Fontwell 2m 2f h'cap hdle good to soft Sep 21. Permabos (11-9) 3rd beaten 4½l to Ra Nova (rec 10lb) 7 ran. Chepstow 2m h'cap hdle good to firm Oct 1. The Pale Barrier (11-1) 3rd beaten 9l to Dancing Sovereign (level) 17 ran. Fontwell 2m 2f nov hdle good to soft May 2. Transient (11-0) 3rd beaten 8l to No Sweat (rec 1lb) 11 ran. Fontwell 2m 2f nov hdle good to soft Sep 21

SELECTION: Connaught River

3.45 FALCON CATERING HEDGEHOPPERS HURDLE (3-y-o: novices: £2,884: 2m 100yd) (18)

501	11U	HOME COMMAND (J Wakefield) C Williams 11-10	R Stronge 4
502	11	EMLYN PRINCESS (Mrs S Crowe) B Swift 11-5	R Campbell 7
503	314	THE THUNDERER (G Brunton) P M Taylor 11-5	A Carroll
504		ABBRULLAH T Thom) J Bridger 11-0	J Suthern
505	3	GREAT PRETENDER (G Morris) T Hallett 11-0	B Wright
506		HENRY GEARY STEELS (F Pullen) B Champion 11-0	J Francome
507		KHYBER (N Ram) G Pritchard-Gordon 11-0	S Smith Eccles
509		LEAVE IT TO BALLY (J Holleran) M McCormack 11-0	G McCourt
511		MOUNT BOLUS (A Sandeman) D Oughton 11-0	R Rowe
513	6	NICE FELLA (V Ralbin) Mrs M Rimell 11-0	S Morshead
515		POLO BOY (Mrs A Herbage) G Balding 11-0	R Linley
516	P	RAGUSTAR (ICS(Southern)) D Oughton 11-0	P Double 4
518	02	ROUND AGAIN (Sir H Calley) A Turnell 11-0	Steve Knight
520		SOCIETY BOY (H Mould) D Nicholson 11-0	P Scudamore
521		VICTORY WARRANT (J Wakefield) C Williams 11-0	J Moran
522		WILDHORN (C A Cyzer) C Cyzer 11-0	M Harrington
526		FEUTERSOEY (M Simmonds) P M Taylor 10-9	T Williams 7
528		NATIVE TIMES (A Richards) C Austin 10-9	T Austin 7

2 Emlyn Princess, 3 Society Boy, 4 Home Command, 6 Nice Fella, 7 Round Again, 9 The Thunderer, 10 Khyber, 12 Great Pretender, 16 others.

FORM: Emlyn Princess (10-3) won 12l from Lain Fort (gave 7lb) with Nice Fella (gave 7lb) 5th beaten 16l 14 ran. Cheltenham 2m nov hdle firm Oct 5. Great Pretender (10-0) 3rd beaten 13l to Brown Shadow (gave 7lb) 16 ran. Newton Abbot 2m 150 nov hdle firm July 30. Home Command Latest unseated rider earlier (11-3) won ½l from Asia Minor (rec 7lb) with Round Again (rec 7lb) 6th beaten 27l 20 ran. Warwick 2m nov hdle good Sep 17. The Thunderer (10-7) won 4l from Round Again (level) 2nd beaten 10 ran. Wincanton 2m nov hdle firm Sep 30.

SELECTION: Home Command

4.15 SEVEN BARROWS HURDLE (handicap: £3,065: 2m 100yd) (18)

604	F10/01-0	BURNS (L Thwaites) F Walwyn 7-11-7	W Smith
605	F3211-0	AVONDALE PRINCESS (Mrs B Taylor) M McCourt 5-11-3	S G McCourt
611	1110-	ADMIRAL'S CUP (CD) (R E A Bott) F Winter 5-10-11	J Francome
614	21/0302	THURSTON (Dataserv Ltd) D Barons 7-10-8	A Webber
615	002/23-	PRINCE OF SPAIN (G Brunton) P Taylor 8-10-7	A Carroll
616	11F-1	SOLID OAK (R Cottle) D Barons 5-10-7 (6 ex)	R Rowe
619	93210P-	WILLETTS FARM BOY (Mrs S Rowe) P Haynes 5-10-6	J Lovejoy 4
620	301200-	COCAINE (E C Steed Ltd) S Pattemore 5-10-5	S Smith Eccles
621	01F/000	BRIGHT OASSIS (Lt-Col E Phillips) K Bailey 7-10-4	M Perrett
624	41120-	ROYAL SWAN (R Cheetham) P Mitchell 5-10-0	R Hughes
625	04PPPP-	CHASJIM (D Murrell) A Moore 5-10-0	J Akehurst 4
627	41014-F	PIEROTH (CD) (P Fahey) G Kindersley 5-10-0	C Brown
629	0412-4	EUSEBIO (CD) (A Sandeman) D Oughton 5-10-0	P Double 4
630	00000/0	KNOWING CARD (Mrs D Merry) P M Taylor 8-10-0	R Chapman 7
633	00P0PP-	JOLLIFFE'S DOUBLE (Peter Jolliffe) A Bailey 7-10-0	J McLaughlin 4
634	0F000-0	SWEETCAL (G Summers) P Cundell 6-10-0	P Richards
635	41F/P00	JASSIM (P Winfield) P Cundell 5-10-0	R Stronge 4
636	0422/d1	HIGH HEAVEN (J Heal) A Moore 5-10-0	G Moore

4 Burns, 6 Solid Oak, 11-2 Admiral's Cup, 7 Avondale Princess, 8 Prince Of Spain, 9 Sweetcal, 10 Royal Swan, 12 Pieroth, 16 others.

Newbury selections

By Michael Phillips

1.45 Mid Day Gun. 2.15 Boreen Daw. 2.45 The Mighty Mac. 3.15 Permabos. 3.45 Society Boy. 4.15 Burns.

Doncaster selections

By Michael Phillips

2.0 Claude Monet. 2.30 Satch. 3.0 Habitassa. 3.30 Reesh. 4.0 Viennese Waltz. 4.30 Worlingworth. 5.0 Sassanoco.

Doncaster

Draw advantage: high numbers best

Tote: Double 3.0, 4.0. Treble 2.30, 3.30, 4.30

2.0 WHEATLEY PARK STAKES (Div I: 2-y-o: £1,935: 7f) (15 runners)

2.30 CANTLEYE PARK HANDICAP (2-y-o selling: £1,382: 1m) (20)

3.0 HALBERDIER HANDICAP (£2,999: 1m 2f 50yd) (22)

3.30 ELECTRO COPY UBIX STAKES (2-y-o: £2,683: 5f) (6)

4	2141	ANTON PILLAR (D) (C St George) H Cecil 9-2	L Piggott	1
5	113320	REESH (D) (Yazid & Ahmed Ltd) W O'Gorman 9-2	T Ives	5
6	220130	DECCAN QUEEN (D) (E Murtagh) E Eldin 8-13	E Guest 5	3
12	01	MEIS EL-REEM (D) (B Choucair) M Albina 8-6	S Cauthen	4

4.0 ELMFIELD PARK STAKES (£2,144: 2m 2f) (11)

4.30 BEECHFIELD HANDICAP (£2,399: 7f) (26)

5.0 WHEATLEY PARK STAKES (Div II: 2-y-o: £1,480: 7f) (14)

Carlisle NH

2.15 ORTON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHASE (Handicap: £792: 2m) (6 runners)

3	023-	Hilly Way 9-11-7	T Donnelly
4	023-	Swift Albany 9-11-1	Mandy Harrison
5	1-44	Reay's Song 9-11-0	P Farrell
6	P1U/	Four Fathoms 9-10-9	–
7	3F-0	Carnival Day 12-10-0	–
8	444	Dr Guillotine 8-10-0	K Jones

11-10 Hilly Way, 2 Swift Albany, Carnival Day, 14 ...

2.45 HARRABY HURDLE (Div I: novices: £647: 2m 330yd) (17)

3.15 VAUX BREWERIES CHASE (Novices: £979: 3m) (16)

2	0-31	Ballylee 8-11-5	S Youlden 7
3	031	Merry Tudor 10-11-5	M Barnes
5	000/	Bobby Bingo 8-11-0	–
6	0/0-P	Bushello 8-11-0	Mr R Shiels 7
7	0-F0	Charter Flight 8-11-0	–
8	R0/F	Cocked Hat Trader 8-11-0	C Hawkins
10	00U	Dick Ready 8-11-0	–
12	-404	Friars Peak 5-11-0	P Tuck
15	UU4	Mighty Ben 5-11-0	K Jones 4
16	230	Muchknock 8-11-0	J O'Neill

3.45 DERWENTWATER HURDLE (Handicap: £2m 330yd) (14)

4.15 DENTON CHASE (Handicap: £1,268: 2m 4f) (8)

1	01-1	Bobjob 10-12-0 (4ex)	T Dun
2	1-31	Kumon Sunshine 8-11-10 (4ex)	J O'Neill
3	0P2-	Miss Wood 8-11-0	M Pepper 4
5	PPP-	Lashkar 8-10-9	–
7	1F4	Moon Drummer 7-10-7	N Doughty

4.45 HARRABY HURDLE (Div II: £657: 2m 330yd)

19 U00- Fedder (B) 6-10-0 P Berry

7-2 Rapington, 4 Gaie Lad, 5 Louviers, 6 Full Measure.

Ludlow

1.30 PRESTEIGNE HURDLE (selling handicap: £650: 2m) (19 runners)

2.0 THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES CHASE (amateurs: £1,428: 3m) (9)

2.30 BRIMFIELD HURDLE (Div I: 3-y-o novices: £483: 2m) (17)

3.0 CHRISTIE'S CHASE (handicap: £1,814: 2m 4f) (12)

3.30 ST JOHN & RED CROSS CHASE (3-y-o novices: £852: 2m) (10)

4.0 BRIMFIELD HURDLE (Div II: 3-y-o novices: £483: 2m) (14)

Kevin Mooney, who rides the fancied Kerry Jack (30)

Newbury results

Redcar

Uttoxeter

هكذا من الاصل

RUGBY UNION: ONE TOUR ENDS TOMORROW, ANOTHER BEGINS TODAY

New stud rule to prevent injuries

Rugby authorities are aiming to reduce injuries with new rules governing boot studs.

A new British standard for replaceable (screw-in) studs will be published on Monday, October 31 by the Rugby Football Union.

The Shoe and Allied Trades Research Association, who have been working on the problem since 1975, have at last devised a test procedure for studs that should dramatically decrease the number of playing injuries.

Numerous tests over a wide range of temperatures have now established a way of determining whether a stud is getting dangerously short.

Dr Roger Vanderfield, of Australia chairman of the international board's laws committee, said that the new standard would be written into laws of the game next March

Injured Irvine out of contention for place against All Blacks

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Andy Irvine, the former Scotland full back, who was hoping to challenge for a place in the national side after missing last season through injury, has withdrawn from the Edinburgh team to play the New Zealanders in the first game of their eight-match tour. The Edinburgh selectors had left a vacancy in the side who play at Merseyside next Wednesday, hoping to watch Irvine prove his fitness for Heriot's FP against Hawick tomorrow, but Irvine's damaged thigh muscle will not allow him to resume playing for another fortnight.

Irvine, aged 32, and capped 51 times, hopes to play for Heriot's against Watsonians next Month, thich will be too late to press his claims against those of Dods, the sitting tenant, for Scotland against New Zealand, whose tour party arrive at Heathrow today. He hopes, nevertheless, to win consideration when the international championship begins in the new Year. Hastings, the young Watsonians full back, is his likely replacement for Edinburgh.

The London Division will announce their team next Monday and on the same day the South and South-west will name their build-up to the tour fixture on November 15. The Midlands Divison name their team on Tuesday and on the same day the North will play a Durham county side to get the feel of the Gateshead pitch where they will meet the New Zealanders on November 2.

The All Blacks will be without six of their leading forwards, their scrum half, Loveridge, who was named this week as the English Rugby Writers' Club player of the year, and the full back, Hewson, who is injured, and it may be that the comparatively unknown quantity of the side is having some effect on sales of tickets for the international at Twickenham on November 19. While the bulk of stand tickets have gone, ground, enclosure and ringside tickets are still available.

If the public are hedging their bets, the players will not be. For many, the tour represents an unexpected opportunity to make points which the British Lions failed to do during the summer. One player not picked to go to New Zealand, the England centre, Dodge, displayed his all-round ability in Leicester's 36-7 win over Oxford University on Wednesday evening, scoring a try from 40 metres in which he beat MacNeill, Ireland's full back, on the outside, and kicking five conversions and a penalty.



Rose: leaving Coventry

Rose, a former club colleague of Dodge's, is to leave Coventry after a three and a half years association because the wear and tear of travelling from his job with a firm of chartered surveyors in London to train and play in the Midlands has become too much. Rose twisted his ankle playing against Leicester at the beginning of this month and has not played since. Several London clubs would surely benefit from his services.

Rose, 26, has won five caps at full back for England. His departure from Coventry comes shortly after that of Davies, the England stand-off half, who has joined Wasps. "It was fun while I was playing for Coventry, but the travel commitments, together with increasing commitments at work, were becoming just too great," Rose said.

SQUASH

Pakistan retain world team title

Auckland (Reuter) – Pakistan retained their world team squash title yesterday when they beat England 3-0 to end the championships without dropping a game.

The Pakistanis, led by Jahingir Khan and Qamar Zaman, the world's number one and number two, were always favourites ot win.

Jahangir dropped seven points in the third game against Hiddy Jahan but said he was not worried. "I had two games in hand so I could have come back in the fourth," he said. "But I do not like to lose when I am playing for my country. It puts pressure on the other players if I lose. In the induvidual championships it is not so important if I do not win."

There was little danger that Jahingir would lose. Hiddy tried to outdrive him, but made too many unforced errors which found the tin.

Earlier Qamar Zaman beat Gawain Briars 9-3, 10-8, 1-9, 9-3. Briars struck a purple patch in the latter part of the second game when he saved game ball before losing 10-8. He carried on in the same vein in the third game forcing seven errors and five hits to the tin from Qamar. Briars took the game 9-1 but could not sustain his dominance as he lost 9-3 in the next.

Phil Kenyon offered little resistance to Maqsood Ahmed, Pakistan number three, losing 9-2, 9-1, 9-4. In the play-off for third and fourth positions Australia beat Egypt 2-1 with comebacks by Dean Williams and Ross Thorne.

Williams was two games and 3-6 down to Ahmed Safwat but recovered to win 3-9, 0-9, 10-9, 9-1.

Thorne had a similar match against Magdi Saad. The Australian was two games down and stretched to the limit but fought back superbly to take the match 5-9, 4-9, 10-9, 9-2, 9-0.

RESULTS: Final: Pakistan 3, England 0: Jahangir Khan bt Hiddy Jahan 9-3, 9-3, 9-7; Qamar Zaman bt G Briars 9-3, 10-8, 1-9, 9-3; Maqsood Ahmed bt P Kenyon 9-2, 9-1, 9-4. Ninth place play-off: Singapore 2, Ireland 1 (Singapore names first): P Hill bt J Hearst 7-9, 8-10, 9-4, 9-2, 9-3; Azinal Abidin lost to W Hosey 1-9, 8-10, 8-10; S Ballard bt J Young 9-5, 9-0, 3-9, 9-5. Eleventh place play-off: Wales 3, Scotland 0: T Salisbury bt C Wilson 9-4, 9-7, 9-4; C Jones bt P Fairlie 9-3, 9-0, 9-1; A Davis bt A Frame 9-3, 5-9, 9-7, 6-9, 9-6.

Search for champion

Jonah Barrington is leading a search for young squash players who want to be world champion. With the backing of Olympus Sports Stores and Dunlop the six times British Open champion has launched a tournament for players under 19. There will be eight regional rounds, with the final in London in February.

Heredity theory borne out at Sedbergh

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

The keenly-awaited meeting of Ampleforth and Sedbergh, though marred by appalling weather, was as memorable as many past matches between two sides who have learned to view each other with respect.

It was Ampleforth's turn to travel and in the gale-driven rain a veritable barrage of "Gary Owens" was directed as Porter, the Ampleforth full back, who dealt with them and the accompanying swarm of brown shirts until a missed touch led Sedbergh in for the only try of a dour and hard match. The Ampleforth pack did well in the set pieces, but Sedbergh's forwards managed greater mobility.

The scorer was Payne, lock forward, son of Colin Payne, the former England lock, and the scoring pass (fpr those interested in heredity) was given by Peart, whose father Tony also played in the England pack; therafter Ampleforth pressed and several crucial penalties were missed.

Carling, the England Schools centre, kicked two well-judged second half penalties for Sedbergh: Carling, the visitors' scrum half, was in great form. As the weather relented a little late in the match the Ampleforth backs showed to advantage, running the ball enterprisingly and creating two clear overlaps, neither of which brought a try. The final score was Sedbergh 10, Ampleforth 0.

Another school which has enjoyed a superb run this season, is Colfe's from south-east London; the surrendered their unbeaten reccord away to Maidstone Grammar School by 12 points to 13. The final result hung upon a couple of vital penalties which were missed for Colfe's in the second half, but Maidstone, thanks largely to their well-organized pack, were worthy winners of a contest that was played in taxing wind and rain.

Colfe's previous victories were at the expense of Wigton Colts, Campion, Dartford GS, Skinners, in addition to a drawn game against Sevenoaks. Maidstone GS are still unbeaten.

Nottingham High School's visit to Quen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield, developed into a contest between the visitors' pack and the home backs. Wakefield, having lost three matches and won three, badly missed their experienced number eight and captain, Wilby.

They led 7-3 at the interval but Nottingham's greater power forward proved crucial and the final score was QEGS 17, Nottingham HS 21. Allchurch, Plumb and Jubb scored tries for the losers; Tunningley kicked a conversion and a penalty.

Konno and the generation gap

By Gerald Davies

Regardless of tomorrow's result against Wales, Shiggy Konno, manager of the Japan team, is a contented man. After all, before the tour started he had fears of a whitewash, but the results are already better than those of 1973, which is the yardstick by which this tour will be judged.

Unlike the golden autumn of that year, the weather this time has not been up to much. But given Konno's present good humour even this can be turned to advantage. "The poor conditions," he mischievously suggests, "may be the reason for our success". But before anyone infers too much from the statement, he adds: "Not so much that it has helped to contain the opposition, but rather that it has forced my players to concentrate on the task".

Despite the heavy loss predicted for his team tomorrow, he believes, as all contestants should, that they are perfectly capable of winnning. His players are in buoyant mood; the Welsh team are full of new faces and, in attempting to shed the respective practices of recent years and play a more open game, may commit errors.

"That will suit us," Konno says, "because it means that we will not get bogged down in a physical confrontation. In that kind of game a lot of mistakes are made which we can capitalize on".

Konno is a remarkable man. In one capacity or another he has engrossed himself in rugby for the last 30 years, beginning as liaison officer for touring teams. He entered the world stage, as it were, when, in his first year as chairman, he attended the Rugby Football Union conference at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, in 1971. Since that time his name has become synonymous with rugby in his country, in much the same way, though less powerfully and influentially in terms of world rugby, as Danie Craven is thought of in South Africa. Think of Japanese rugby, think of Shiggy Konno.

Who will take over when he decides to call it a day? "Already on this tour," he smiles, "I am aware of the generation gap that now, all of a sudden, exists between me and the players. My jokes these days are greeted with deadpan expressions.

"Over the years I've come to know everybody in the administration of rugby. Even though Japan are not in the big league, I am sufficiently well enough known that I need only pick up the telephone to get the person I need. It will not be the same for my successor".

To get to know those men on the International Board who control the game is not an easy task. "Since we are not represented on the board we have very little communication with them. Occasional notices are sent to us, but that's about it. It is a situation that needs to be corrected and improved."

However, although many other nations might disagree with him, he is not in favour of increasing the board's membership at present.

"It would be far too chaotic," he goes on." Can you imagine, for example, what it would be like to attempt to change the laws with countries wishing to slant changes in their favour and their particular strengths?

He foresees, too, a conference of all rugby unions that would meet every three or four years; and the time is surely not far off when there is an executive secretariat to administer the day-to-day details. There has to be a channel of communication so that the likes of Konno can be heard.

● The Japanese team for tomorrow is: N Taniguchi; F Kanaya, H Kobayashi, S Hirao, T Higashida; Y Matsuo (captain), Y. Konishi; J Ishiyama, T Fujita, K Horikouchi, H Kawachi, T Hayashi, H Oyagi, Y Kawase, M Chida.

Smart starts back

Colin Smart, England's loosehead rugby union prop forward who has been out this season through suspension and an achilles tendon unjury, starts his bid for a place in the side to meet New Zealand on November 19 by playing for junior club Newport United against St Peters on Saturday.

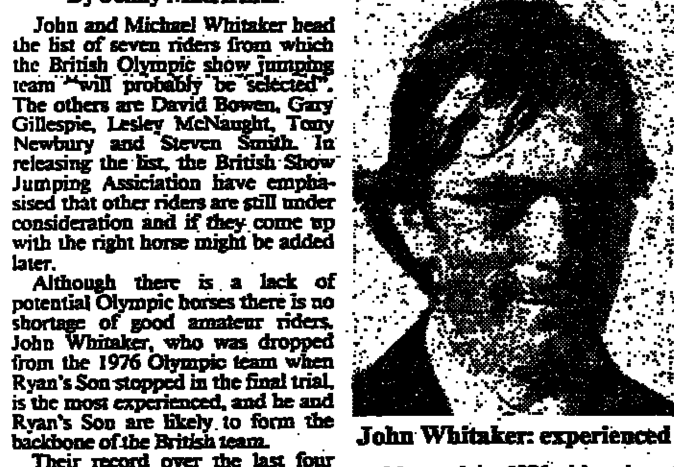
EQUESTRIANISM

Whitakers ride high in Olympic shortlist

By Jenny MacArthur

John and Michael Whitaker head the list of seven riders from which the British Olympic show jumping team "will probably be selected". The others are David Bowen, Gary Gillespie, Lesley McNaught, Tony Newbury and Steven Smith. In releasing the list, the British Show Jumping Assiciation have emphasised that other riders are still under consideration and if they come up with the right horse might be added later.





John Whitaker: experienced

Although there is a lack of potential Olympic horses there is no shortage of good amateur riders. John Whitaker, who was dropped from the 1976 Olympic team when Ryan's Son stopped in the final trial, is the most experienced, and he and Ryan's Son are likely to form the backbone of the British team.

Their record over the last four years has been outstanding and includes the team and individual silver medal at the Rotterdam alternative olympics in 1980 and the team and individual silver at the 1983 European Championships. Whitaker may well decide that it would be too much to expect Ryan's Son, now 15, to compete in the individual event as well as the team. If this were the case he has a beautiful second string for the individual event in St Mungo, a bold horse with a big jump. Each country may send five riders and eight horses.

Michael Whitaker has Red Flight and Overton Amanda to look to as potential Olympic horses. The former has the scope – he jumped 7ft 2in to win the puissance at Barcelona in May. Although Overton Amanda was off form at Wembley this month it is the experience of big outdoor tracks that counts in the Olympics, and this year Overton Amanda has acquitted herself well in the Nations' Cup events at Barcelona, Aachen and Calgary.

Of the other five riders Lesley Mc Naught, the only girl, has to find a horse to match her outstanding ability. Tony Newbury, who was included in the five riders who went to Montreal in 1976 although not actually picked for the ream, has the necessary experience but neither of his two top rides Whato, a good puissance horse, or Maguire Esquire, are ideal for the Olympics.

Gary Gillespie is one of the few who has a perfect partner in Goldfink – a horse which could cope with both the team and individual competitions.

Steven Smith has had Sanyo Fairway earmarked as a potential Olympic horse for him by his father Harvey and they are an imposing combination. At Liege this summer they jumped well in what was only their second Nations Cup event. Their first was in Geneva this spring.

David Bowen, from Preston, makes up the seven. Bowen, who won the King George V Cup in 1980, is a tough competitor – a quality much in demand for an Olympic rider – but desperately needs a top horse.

It is possible that riders may be lent a good horse but it is unfair to expect professionals to put their top horses at the amateur's disposal.

Mr Ronnie Massarella, the British Chef D'Equipe, remains "quietly optimistic" about Britain's chances at Los Angeles.

When Prean puts on his picture-window glasses he turns into a pimpled Superbat

A sapling shoots up like a Redwood and is not so green as he looks

When Clark Kent takes off his glasses he turns into Superman. When Carl Prean takes his off the reverse happens. He becomes an ordinary mortal. But when he has those picture windows on the end of his nose he is a superman indeed and there is no one in England who can find a green Kryptonite bat with which to beat him.

Prean is England's number one table tennis player at 16, his performance in the recent world championships (15 wins, only four defeats) helped England towards their first medal for 30 yeas, and, no, green Kryptonite is not a special kind of quasi-legal rubber to put on table tennis bats, it is a television reference.

But if you thought 12-metre yacht racing was a bit complicated by technology and rules, you should try ping-pong. The game you used to play before an audience of girls in Woolworth mascara, who totally ignored you in a thousand youth clubs while you prayed that they would notice your forehand and not your pimples, is an international sport in which the legal and technical aspects of winged keels seem elementary stuff for schoolboys.

And pimples, the curse of most youths, are a matter for rejoicing for the youthful Prean. Long pimples are one of the sources of his bewildering unorthodoxy and, of course, are a special kind of rubber. I will not go into the technicalities, as I do not understand a word of it, but take it from me, Prean uses a table tennis bat covered (one side) with long pimpled rubber and, what is more, he *uses it in a funny way*. He counter-hits with it. It is a rubber designed for defenders and that is why his bad bought a sheet of it: to aid his own defensive ame.

"I couldn't get on with the stuff at all, couldn't keep the ball on the table," John Prean said. Carl added: "The long pimples just suited me straightaway." And quick as a flash his Dad put in: "He'd be good with anything, though."

Mr Prean introduced his lad to the game after discovering it on holiday in Majorca. He ended up playing for the Isle of Wight at the age of 47. Carl, meanwhile, entered the world rankings when, 15: "and I can't remember so young a player to be world ranked since a Brazilian in the fifties." Carl was coached by his father, who still handles day-to-day coaching, and he also goes on England coaching weekends. One pities all his coaches: Carl's talent is not of a comforminst nature.

"I am not really unorthodox in the way I play the ball," he said. "It's my footwork that is unorthodox." That is one way of putting it. He is one of those naturally gawky people, who look totally uncoordinated. He has been shooting up like a Californian Redwood in recent months, six inches in the last year, "and I had to turn his track-suit trousers down one-and-a-half inches last week. It fitted him in May," said his mother.

He is naturally all arms and legs; when he plays his arms fail like a windmill and his legs churn like a egg-beater. Still photographs capture him in all kinds of improbable positions, bat under armpit and knee under ear-hole. "It's just how I play," he said.

He is a nice lad, incidentally, and a sports enthusiast with a freakish memory for facts and statistics. He can even remember evey football club Frank Worthington has played for. He does not come over as someone who is no more than his father's creature; he is in the middle of quietly becoming his own man: amiable, perhaps a trifle eccentric, and blessed with the natural confidence that seems to come from winning things.

He has made the inevitable decision to turn full time player and will probably leave school after O level resits in January. He knows that with more time for practice his already finely honed game can only improve and he has his sights levelled at the European championships in Moscow in April. "I've got a little chance, a very little chance of winning it." He is 12th in Europe and 25th in the world, "quick and unorthodox and with a tremendous will to win," he said.



Studied swatting: Prean has gawkiness to go with his school-swot looks

Carl Pream was a more tham useful player whn he wore his school swot black glasses. But now he has a super-cool pair of Easy Rider wind shields through which he regards the world and his opponents with a misleading air of mild surprise. He takes them off, rubs his eyes, returns them to his nose, and once again he is superman, hitting the ball faster than the speed of light and reading his opponents and their magic bats with his x-ray vision. And the frightening thing is, he will probably get better.

Simon Barnes

CYCLING

Steep task for riders on new Sealink route

By John Wilcockson

Next year's Sealink International race looks like being a severe test for international amateurs hoping for Olympic selection, and for those British professionals who wish to book their passage for the following Milk Race.

Breaking entirely from the event's nautical traditions, all six days of racing will take place inland, with the only sight of the sea coming at Morecambe – if the tide is in.

The organizers announced a 509 miles route yesterday which is the hilliest in the race's short history. Some of the more notorious climbs in the Pennines and Peak District are on the menue, including the unpalatable Snake Pass, the Cat & Fiddle and Holme Moss.

The race starts from the Lancashire new town of Skelmersdale on Monday, April 9, and finishes, as it did this year, at Norfolk Park, Sheffield, on the following Saturday.

ITINERARY: April 9: Prologue time-trial at Skelmersdale (2 miles); April 10: Skelmersdale to Morecambe (105); April 11: Morecambe to Oldham (78); and Oldham to Buxton (48); April 12: Buxton to Doncaster (105); April 13: Doncaster to Alton Towers (93); April 14: Alton Towers to Sheffield (78) and Norfolk Park time-trial (1 mile).

HOCKEY

New coach confident of England women's team

By Joyce Whitehead

Jenny Cardwell has been appointed coach of the England women's team. Di Batterham is the new England manager.

At a press conference held at Wembley Stadium on Wednesday, the All-England Women's Hockey Association (AEWHA), and Tipp-Ex, who will again sponsor the England against Ireland match next year, Mrs Cardwell filled us with confidence.

She is forthright, but also recognizes that the England team themselves have much to offer in determining the way they play. She believes, too, in the value of captaincy.

Mrs Batterham is not a manager in the football sense because she will not be selecting the team. She sees her role as an organiser and coordinator since she is the England match secretary as well as being in charge of the players on the bench.

Mrs Cardwell and Mrs Batterham were both members of the England squad which played in the International Federation of Women's Hockey Associations' tournament in New Zealand in 1971.

On Sunday there are three county matches of note. Yorkshire, with the newcomers, Elizabeth Burt (Sheffield) and Gillian Brown, who recently came to prominence in the England Under-21 XI, trael to Ashby Road, Loughborough, to play Leicestershire. This is a biennial fixture; in 1981, Leicestershire won 1-0. Leicestershire had two places to fill at their trials. These have been taken by Wendy Cockburn and Susan Manley, the welsh international. On paper, Leicestershire look strong and must be hopeful of holding on to first position in the county championships this season.

At Polehill Avenue, Bedford, Bedfordshire play Cambridgeshire. Both teams will be determined to redeem themselves after losses last week. Bedfordshire are obviously missing Shirley Nicholl, a stalwart for many years.

Test for Netherlands

Karachi, (Reuter) – The Netherlands who won the Champions Trophy here in 1981 and retained it in Amsterdam last year, will have Australia in their first match of the 1983 tournament to be played here on artificial turf from October 28.

ARCHERY

Former world champions in leading places

Long Beach, California, (AFP) – Darrell Pace, of the United States, the 1976 Olympic champion, was one point clear of his nearest rival in the men's standings after the first two events in the world archery championships on Wednesday.

After the 90 metre and 70 metre competitions, Pace had 622 points, one more than Tomi Poikolainen, of Finland, the 1980 Olympic champion in Moscow.

In equal third place, a further point behind, were Goran Bjerendal of Sweden and Rick McKinney of the United States.

Jin Ho Kim of South Korea, one of the favourites, led the women's standings with 641 points, seven points ahead of Miloslava Zahradnicek, of West Germany, after the 70 metre and 60 metre events.

A total of 185 archers from 38 nations are taking part, being held at the range to be used for next year's Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

RESULTS: Men: 1, D Pace (US) 622 pts; 2, T Poikolainen (Fin) 621; equal 3, G Bjerendal (Swe), Rick McKinney (US) 620. Women: 1, Jin Ho Kim (S Kor) 641 pts; 2, M Zahradnicek (WG) 634; 3, L Kazlenko (Can) 627; 4, Jae-Bong Jung (S Kor) 625.

SWIMMING

Preparing to make waves in and out of the water

By Athole Still

Hard talking as well as fast swimming will be a feature of the three-day Sun Life Masters' swimming championships which open at Neneaton tonight. The record entry of 300, including 26 former Olympic competitors, as well as internationals from England, Scotland, Wales, West Germany, Norway and Switzerland, reflects the growing attraction of competitive swimming as a fitness pursuit for adults from 25 to the seventies and beyond.

Some of the competitors have prepared as thoroughly for their out-of-pool arguments with officials of the Amateur Swimming Association as they have for their efforts to win championship medals.

Vivienne Cherriman, aged 77, from the Isle of Wight, world record holder and world champion in her age group, will take a leading part in the effort to persuade ASA to accept the ruling of their own international body FINA, which allows professionals and amateurs to compete together in the Masters category.

The ASA's refusal to comply excludes entries from Olympic gold medal winners, Duncan Goodhew and David Wilkie, and stars of the calibre of Jack Hale, aged 61, of Hull, who set a number of world masters records on his way to winning six gold medals at the United States championships

Despite talk of forming an independent breakaway group from the ASA it is likely that the assembled competitors will expend much of their weekend effort in trying to persuade the ASA to open the sport in England to all the "stars" still able to demonstrate their prowess in the pool.

Killy's warning shot

New York (AP) – Jean-Claude Killy, of France, who won three Olympic skiing gold medals in 1968 and was then warned by Avery Brundage that he might be required to return them because of overtones of professionalism, said yesterday he had invited the former president of the International Olympic Committee to "come and get them". Killy, 40, who runs in the New York marathon on Sunday, said he told Brundage, "If you want the medals, come to Val D'Isere and get them. I've got a couple of good rifles here and I'll show you what we do in the mountains".

Today's radio

From page 23

WORLD SERVICE

Entertainments

CC Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office
When telephoning use prefix 01 only when outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
PLEASE NOTE that performances of RIENZI Tonight (20th Oct) IS CANCELLED. Refunds obtainable from Box Office.
Tomor, Tue 5.30: THE VALKYRIE. (perf ends approx 11.10) Wed 7.00: RIENZI. Some seats avail at the door on the day

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN 240 1066/1911. 10am-8pm (Mon-Sat). Access/Visa. 'S'. 65 amphi-seats avail for all perfs (Mon-Sat) from 10am on the day
THE ROYAL BALLET
Ton't & Wed at 7.30pm, Swan Lake. Tomor at 7.30pm. A Wedding Bouquet/Voluntaries/A Month in the Country. Mon & Thurs at 7 30pm Manon.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1 01-278 8916 (5 lines) CC. Grp. sales 01-930 6123. THE WELLS' STAGE-COACH: Before & After show Bus Service. Phone B.O. for details. NEW SADLER'S WELLS OPERA Hotline: Tel: 01-278 0855 (24 hrs) for brochure. Until Oct 29 Evgs 7.30. Sat Mats 2.30 LINDSAY KEMP CO. Ton't & Tomor: A Midsummer Night's Dream. Next week: Facade/Nijinsky – The Fool.

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL, Barbican Centre EC2 01-638 8891, 01-628 8795 Ton't 8.00 ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. SIR CHARLES GROVES cond. CRISTINA ORTIZ piano Beethoven: Symphony No 8 in F 'Emperor' Piano Concerto, 'Pastoral' Symphony Tomor 6.00 & 8 30 Andy Williams in Concert

TONIGHT. ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 7.30. Northern Sinfonia of England Gala Silver Jubilee Concert with Oscar Shumsky (violin): Richard Hickox (conductor). Guest of honour the Minister for the Arts; Sponsor: Fenwick Limited. Music by Mozart, Dvorak & Prokofiev Tickets £2 to £7 at the door

THEATRES

ADELPHI 836 7611/2. CC cards 930 9232, 836 7358. Grp sales 930 6123. RSC's MUSICAL OF THE YEAR Alfred Marks Geoffrey Hutchings Antonia Ellis David Firth
POPPY
by PETER NICHOLS & MONTY NORMAN. Advanced Box Office now open. Reduced price previews from 14 Nov. Opens 22 November

ALBERY S 01-836 3878 cc 379 6565 930 9232 Grp bkgs 01-836 3962, 930 6123
PAUL EDDINGTON COLIN BLAKELY GEORGINA HALE JANE CARR
LOVERS DANCING
a new comedy by CHARLES DYER. Reduced price prevs Eves 7 30. Sat 5.00 & 8.30. OPENS 27 OCT AT 7PM.

ALDWYCH s 01-836 6404, 379 6233 Credit Cards only 01-836 0641 Evgs 8.0. Wed 2.30, Sat 5.30, 8.30
STEPHEN MOORE. LIZA GODDARD PETER BLYTHE. GLYN OWEN in
THE HARD SHOULDER
"AN EXCELLENT NEW COMEDY BY STEPHEN FAGAN" D.Telegraph. "BRILLIANTLY PLOTTED COMEDY" Times. "IRRESISTIBLY FUNNY" City Limits. "THE TRUEST COMEDY IN YEARS AND VERY WELL PERFORMED" Observer.

AMBASSADORS 01-836 1171 The Little Theatre of Comedy Company presents The Dramatis Personae Ltd production of A Double Bill of Startlingly different comedies MARIA AITKEN and CHRISTOPHER TIMOTHY in
"SISTER MARY IGNATIUS EXPLAINS IT ALL FOR YOU" And
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Previews From Saturday Oct 29 Booking now open at Theatre 01-836 1171 or Shaftesbury Theatre 01-836 6596. Credit Card Hotline 01-930 9232. Groups of 10 or more 01-930 6123. SEE ALSO SHAFTESBURY

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"Super Star" D Exp.
in
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
"Every detail of this marvellous revival works superbly" The Gdn "This is family entertainment at its best" D.Mir
Evgs 7.30. Mat Thurs & Sat 2.30
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cc Theatre Bkgs 01-930 9232 Group Sales 01-930 6123 Party Bkgs 01-828 6188

APOLLO (Shafts Ave) S CC 437 2663. 434 3598 Mon-Fri 8. Sat 5.30. 8.30. Thur 3. Grp 930 6123
HANNAH GORDON "A masterful portrayal" – Daily Mail
MARTIN SHAW "An electric performance" Gdn
JOHN STRIDE "Mesmerising" Times
THE COUNTRY GIRL
"This great and powerful play" Punch "Gloriously brought to life" D Mail "Magnificent" N.o.W

ASTORIA Charing Cross Rd 01 437 6564. 5-6. "A spontaneous thunder of applause which it wholly deserved...A dazzling blast from the past," Daily Mail "I was happy to join the standing ovation," Music Week. cc Hotline 01-930 9232. Group sales 01-930 6123. (Mon Thurs 8 pm) Fri 5 30pm & 8 45pm Sat 5.00pm and 8 30pm
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Suitable for all the family "I had to be restrained from jiving down the aisles." Daily Telegraph "The Costumes were stunning." Standard "Non-stop ..Great Entertainment" News of the World. Friday 5.30. performance all seats £4.50. Complete night out at PIZZA EXPRESS and 'JUKEBOX' only £9 50 (inc)

BARBICAN. 01-628 8795 cc 01-638 8891 (Mon-Sat 10am-8pm)
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
BARBICAN THEATRE ton't 7.30 tomor 2.00 & 7.30 THE TEMPEST (runs 2½hrs - sold out). MACBETH 25 27 Oct. MAYDAYS by David Edgar 28 29 Oct. Day seats £4 from 10 am THE PIT ton't 7.30, tomor 2.00 & 7 30 MOLIERE by Bulgakov (runs 2hrs sold out)

BUSH THEATRE 743 3388 Black Theatre Co-op in THE TOOTH OF CRIME by Sam Shepard Last 2 Perfs Ton't-Tomor 8 0

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE WC2 01-379 5299 Prevs from Oct 28 Opens Nov 8 Eves 7.30. Mat Thurs at 2.30. Sat 5 & 8 JANE LAPOTAIRE, PETER BLAKE and STUBBY KAYE in DEAR ANYONE A New Musical Group Sales 01-930 6123 P.S. Birmingham loved it! 'Sizzling' The Guardian 'Superbly portrayed' Birmingham Mail 'Stunning Sparkling' Birmingham Post

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE (0243 781312) Barbara Windsor Christopher Timothy, Reg Dixon, Aubrey Woods in ALADDIN Dec 16 to Jan 14 BOOKING NOW.

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The monster musical comedy. "JUST TERRIFIC" D Exp "A THEATRICAL PHENOMENON" F Times "What makes it special is The IMMENSELY CLEVER AND HUMOROUS book, music and lyrics" Time Out. "A most marvellous night out" LBC.

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium - low price tkts) Ton't 7.30. Tomor 2.30 & 7 30 GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS. by David Mamet

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DRURY LANE Theatre Royal CC 01 836 8108 Grp sales 01-930 6123 Prevs Nov 11 12 Opens Nov 14
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American Co for limited season.

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OLIVER TOBIAS RONALD FRASER ANNIE ROSS in
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"The show's sensational" D Exp. Credit Card Hotline 930 9232 SECOND SWASHBUCKLING YEAR. LAST 2 WEEKS

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Box office 01-836 8243 Credit card hot line 01-930 9232 Keith Prowse(nobkngfee)01-636 8686 Group Sales 01-930 6123 Mon-Thurs 8.00pm Fri & Sat 6.00pm & 8 30pm "Skilful and seductive as Annie" Times
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"Sumptuous" "Beautifully Done" "Joan Plowright: a jewel of a performance" "Frank Finlay: Masterful" (Times, Std, D. Tel)
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Directed by CLIFFORD WILLIAMS
Designed by RALPH KOLTAI

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ERIC LANDER, VIRGINIA STRIDE in
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"The best thriller for years" S Mir "An unabashed winner" S.Exp "A thriller that achieves it all Sensational" Times. "The most ingenious mystery to have appeared in a decade A play to be seen". Daily Mail
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A CABARET MUSICAL
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Directed by Harold Prince. Evgs. 8.0. Mats Thurs & Sat at 3.0. Evg. perfs end 10.15. C.C. Hotline 439 8499. Group Sales 930 6123 or Box Office.

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PENELOPE KEITH
in
HAY FEVER
by
NOEL COWARD
Previewing tonight & until Oct 24. Opens Oct 25 at 7.0
Evgs Mon-Fri 7.30 Mats Weds 3.0. Sats 5.0 & 8.15. No Weds. Mat Oct 26. Booking until April 1984.

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THE REAL THING
Directed by Peter Wood

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Directed by Allan Davis
Evgs 8.00 Mats Weds 2 45 Sats 5.00.

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"THE BEST FUN TO BE HAD" Daily Tele "MADHOUSE" Times

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CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981 Isabelle Huppert in AT FIRST SIGHT (15) at 2.00 (not Sun). 4.10. 6.25. 8.45

ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Rohmer's prize-winning PAULINE AT THE BEACH (15) Progs 2.35 (not Sun). 4 40. 6 45. 8.50

ACADEMY 3. 437 8819 Simone Signoret in L'ETOILE DU NORD (PG) at 4 00. 6 15. 8.35

CAMDEN PLAZA. 485 2443 opp Camden Town Tube. David Bowie & Tom Conti in Oshima's MERRY CHRISTMAS MR LAWRENCE (15) Progs 1.30. 3.45. 6 10. 8.40 Seats bookable 8.40 perf

CAMDEN PLAZA 485 2443 opp Camden Town Tube. Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence (15). Progs 1.30. 3.45. 6.10. 8.40 Ends Wed 26th From Thurs 27th The Colour of Pomegranates

CHELSEA CINEMA 351 3742 (formerly Odeon) 206 Kings Road, SW3 (Sloane Sq tube) Andrzej Wajda's prizewinning film DANTON (PG). Film at 3.30. 6.05. 8 45 Lic'd bar Seats bkble last perf Access/Visa

CURZON, Curzon St. W1. 499 3737 Jeremy Irons, Ben Kingsley, Patricia Hodge "Are all superb" F. Times in Harold Pinter's BETRAYAL (15) "a film not to be missed" Barry Norman Film 83. Progs at 2 00 (not Sun). 4.10. 6.20. 8 40

GATE BLOOMSBURY, 1 & 2. 837 8402/1177. Russell Sq Tube 1: ZELIG (PG) 12.25. 1.55. 3.25. 4.55. 6.25. 8.00. 9.35 Adv tkts. N.C.P. parking 30p all day Sat & Sun, Mon-Fri after 6pm 2: Last 6 days! FORBIDDEN RELATIONS (18) 1.00. 3.00. 5 10. 7.00. 9.00. From Thurs THE LEOPARD (PG) Lic'd Bar Access/Visa

GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031 MAYFAIR HOTEL Green Pk Tb. Last 6 Days! THE KING OF COMEDY (PG) 5.00. 7.00. 9.05. From Thurs FORBIDDEN RELATIONS (18)

GATE NOTTING HILL. 221 0220, 727 5750 Last 6 days! THE LEOPARD (PG) 1 00. 4.20. 7.45. From Thurs Ozu's TOKYO STORY (U)

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(continued on page 19)

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Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

The age of the diesel car is at hand

For more years than I care to remember, motor industry pundits have been saying "the day of the diesel powered car is upon us". But the transformation of the diesel from a noisy, messy, overweight and underpowered but economical mover of heavy trucks to become an acceptable alternative to today's high technology petrol engine has taken much longer than the experts predicted.

They were convinced it had come four years ago when the remarkable WV Golf 1.5-litre diesel appeared. It was much lighter than any car diesel before and it revved like a petrol engine. But another two years were to pass before General Motors went a step further with an even more driveable Vauxhall 1.6-litre diesel.

Today the new breed of lightweight, high-revving diesels is growing so rapidly that if "the day of the disesl" is not actually here, it must be just around the corner. Ford will give the diesel's progress another boost in the spring when it launches a version of the new Orion with a new 1.6-litre diesel. It will go into the facelifted Fiesta at about the same time.

Ford is already proudly proclaiming that, mated to a five-speed transmission, the Fiesta diesel will achieve a fuel consumption of more than 74 mpg at a steady 56 mph and have a top speed of over 90 mph.

But nothing seen or even hinted at to date in Europe matches the 1-litre, 3-cylinder diesel engine developed by Daihatsu Japan, and shown for the first time in Britain at the Earl's Court Motorfair this week. Official government test figures show that at a steady 56 mph the Daihatsu Charade diesel will return 78.47 mpg, the best fuel consumption of any mass produced car by a clear margin.

Miserly fuel consumption is one thing, and drivability is another. The only way to discover whether the Charade is a freak concept, disdaining fuel but a pig to drive, is on the road. I have one on test at present and while I must reserve final judgment until the test is completed, it is already apparent that the Charade diesel is an entirely practical four-seat car.

Unlimited editions

Limited edition cars should be just that, limited to the number originally announced to give them exclusivity, in order to persuade you to buy them. They are basically ordinary cars "dolled-up".

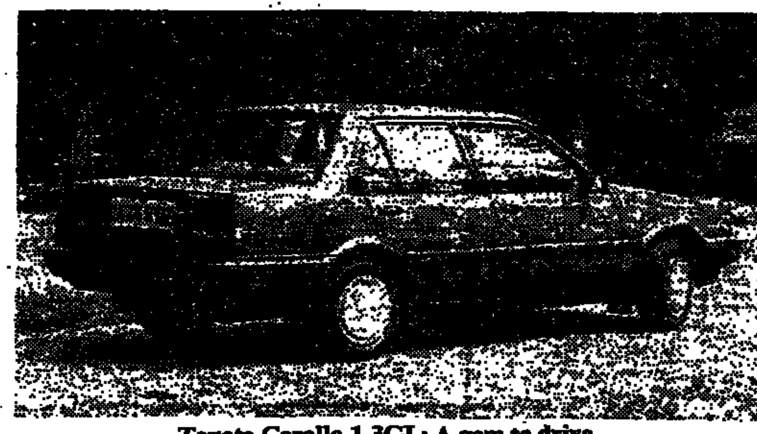
The ploy may be used to boost flagging sales of a particular model or in the case of the recently announced Metro Vanden Plas 500 to increase the profit margin per unit of a model that is already in great demand in more basic and less profitable form.

Austin Rover insist that, as the name implies, only 500 Vanden Plas specials will be made. Five months ago Renault launched a limited edition of the Renault 9 called the Freeway. It proved to be extremely popular and every one of the 1,200 produced was sold within weeks. But still orders poured in so this week Renault announced that they will build another batch of limited edition Freeways, and like the previous batch, they will be limited to 1,200. And after that another 1,200 and another 1,200?

Toyota Corolla

Toyota is one of the world's largest and most successful car makers. So when last month it replaced the Corolla, the car that has been its main breadwinner for the past 17 years, with a totally new model, its competitors could not wait to get hold of one to pull it to pieces and analyse.

They found nothing which changed their view of Toyota as a manufacturer of very reliable, cost effective but essentially conservative cars. It was true that the new Corolla had switched to front wheel drive with a transverse engine, had a five-speed gearbox, the latest wedge-shaped appearance, rack and pinion steering and a much improved ventilation system. But it was still following European trends and not attempting to lead them.



Toyota Corolla 1.3GL: A gem to drive

Nevertheless, European car chiefs did not heave a collective sigh of relief. As one chief engineer told me: "Toyota may not have set any firsts, but the new Corolla is a very fine package. It is well engineered, gives a good account of itself on the road and will be a pain in the neck in a lot of markets for some years to come."

Vital Statistics
Model: Toyota Corolla 1.3GL
Price: £5,133
Engine: 1295cc 4-cylinder
Performance: Maximum speed 97mph, 0-60mph 14.2sec
Official consumption: Urban 34mpg, 56mph 49.6mpg, 75mph 34.4mpg
Length: 13.56ft
Insurance: Group 3.

It is being imported to Britain only with a 1.3-litre engine, in hatchback, saloon and estate form. It was a saloon version I tried recently. To say I was surprised with the outcome is to put it mildly. The new Corolla is a gem to drive, one of the sweetest pieces of machinery to pass through my hands for a long time.

The 1295cc overhead camshaft engine delivers a healthy 69bhp and is a free revving unit in the best Italian tradition. It is not the quietest around, producing a busy, throaty roar that would not be out of place in a sports car. But it was not unduly intrusive, lacking the mechanical thrashing noise which mars some engines. In fact I found the sound pleasing and reassuring evidence that despite soaring revs it was not being stressed.

But it is the engine's combination with an exceptionally smooth changing five-speed gearbox and very responsive brakes that has you looking forward to the next journey. For years Ford set the standard for gear changing, but the new Toyota box is in a class of its own. Selections require only fingerlight pressure yet slide into place with uncanny accuracy and total lack of baulking.

The claimed top speed of 97mph puts it on a par with the better cars in its class and despite some hard motoring mixed with appalling traffic crawls, returned 34mpg overall.

The ride is good without winning any prizes, principally it is too easily caught out by single obstructions such as newly repaired service trenches which produce a shudder protest from the whole car. Nevertheless I have no hesitation in recommending this as a good buy at £5,133. It compares with £5,905 for Ford's new Orion and £5,249 for Austin Rover's Japanese Triumph Acclaim.

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GOLDMAN, Phyllis, who died Oct 21st, 1978 – with happy memories from her son, David Seymour Gray, Kathleen Taylor and many others.

IN MEMORIAM

CAMPBELL. – D.T. departed this life September 7, 1979, gone but yet still here in loving memory his children Leopold, Beresford, Yvette, Geraldine & Hannah.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

AUSTEN. – Mrs Lorna Austen and family wish to express their deepest gratitude to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the very kind messages of sympathy, help and support received following the sudden death of her dear husband Percy. Also to say thank you most sincerely for all the generosity to the British Heart Foundation.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM: News and information service, available on every TV set, with teletext or not.

6.30 Breakfast Time: With Frank Bough and Fern Britton. Today's "specials" are Pop News (between 7.45 and 8.00), and Audrey Eyton's Slim and Shine phone-in (8.30-9.30). Regular items include news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 8.30, regional news at 6.45, and half-hourly until 8.15; Sport at 6.43, 7.18 and 8.18; Morning papers at 7.32 and 8.32, tonight's TV(7.15-7.30pm).

9.00 The New Adventures of Flash Gordon: cartoon version of the old Saturday *morning* film club serial; **9.20 Reflections:** Second screening of last night's intermiew with Harold Macmillan, in his 90th year. The interviewer: Ludovic Kennedy; **10.10 Cartoons;** ***10.30 Play School:*** *the story of* Jack and Nancy; **10.55 Play Ideas.** Closedown at 11.05.

12.30 New After Noon: with Richard Whitemore and Judi Lines; **12.57 Financial Report.** And sub-titled news.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Monty Python comedy-actor Terry Jones talks about his book for children, *The Saga of Eric the Viking.* His illustrator, Michael Foreman is also in the studio. The guests include Leo Sayer; **1.45 Little Misses and the Mister Men:** for the toddlers.

2.00 Newbury Racing: Live coverage of the 2.15, 2.45, 3.15 and 3.45 races. the 2.45 *is the Glynwed International* Steeplechase.

3.55 Play School: It's Friday. For the young viewer; **4.20 Bananaman:** with well-known voices, including Bill Oddie's; **4.35 Hong Kong Phooey:** cartoon; **4.50 Crackerjack:** the special guests are the magical man The Great Soprendo, Haircut 100 and Mark Robertson; **5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph:** the birthday party.

5.40 News: with Jan Leeming; **6.00 South at Six; 6.25 Friday Sportstime.** With Desmond Lynam.

6.45 Show Business: a fast-moving review of the entertainment scene, presented by Mike Smith. With reports from Sally James, Anneka Rice and Richard Skinner. Plus Peter Noble's gossip feature.

7.15 Bare Essence: Second and final part of this American-made TV drama starring Genie Francis as the aggressive young woman who breaks into the cutthroat world of international perfume. Based on Meredith Rich's novel. Co-stqrring Linda Evans and Bruce Boxleitner.

8.45 Points of View: Viewers who write in get a reply from Barry Took.

9.00 News; with Sue Lawley and weather forecast for the weekend.

9.25 Knots Landing: Karen makes her breakthrough as a saleswoman; and a private detective has found Jeff and his children but when Abby goes to see them, she and Jeff start quarrelling again.

10.15 Now Get out of That: The two teams (American and British) continue their mission – racing, in the open, against the clock. **10.45 News.**

10.50 Film: Little Murders (1971). A hit-and-miss attempt to make *a film out of Jules Feiffer's* blackish satire on the New York scene which began life as a a stage play. Co-starring Donald Sutherland as The Minister and Alan Arkin as The Detective. Arkin directed, too. Also starring Marcia Rodd, Vincent Gardenia and Elizabeth Wilson. Feiffer wrote his own screenplay. Ends at 12.40 am.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Nick Owen and Anne Diamond. The Friday "specials" include Checkout (consumer guide) at 6.45, Popeye at 7.20, Fantasy Time at 8.05, *television preview* at 8.05 and the Diana Dors diet at 8.42. The regular items include news at 6.30 and half-hourly until 9.00, then at 9.23; the morning papers at 8.25, pop video at 7.55 and competition at 8.25.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines; 9.30 for Schools: isolation and growth of bacteria; **9.47** How We Used to Live; **10.09** Play Time; **10.26** Machine-powered flight; **10.43** Job interviews; **11.05** The Hairy Hand; **11.22** Noah's Ark; **11.39** The northern Pennines.

12.00 ***We'll Tell You a Story:*** *the* theme – hands and feet; **12.10 Rainbow:** repeated at 4.00; **12.30 Positive Thinking:** how Victim Support Schemes work.

1.00 News from ITN; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 About Britain: Loch Lomond – by Yon Bonnie Banks. Conflicting views on a protection and improvement plan.

2.00 Private Benjamin: American army comedy series starring Lorna Patterson; **2.30 Falcon Crest:** Jane Wyman stars in a saga of rich folk in California's wine-growing territory (r); **3.30 Blockbusters:** Quiz game.

4.00 Children's ITV: Rainbow: with *David Rappaport;* **4.20 Dangermouse:** episode five of The Four Tasks of Dangermouse (r); **4.25 Sooty:** with the Royal Artillery Motor Cycle Display Team; **4.50 Dinosaur Trail:** reconstructing the monsters' way of life; **5.15 The Young Doctors.**

5.45 News from ITN; 6.00 The 6 o'Clock Show: News items of the lighter sort, plus star guests. Michael Aspel is in charge.

7.00 Family Fortunes: with Max Bygraves. The Polsons from Aberdeen versus the Burkes from Newport, Gwent.

7.30 The A-Team: The soldiers of fortune helps a young woman in her search for a hidden diamond mine in the African jungle. With George Peppard.

8.30 The Bounder: The con-man (Peter Bowles) and the former prisoner who has a way with faked pictures. With George Cole.

9.00 The Outsider: Drama series about a scandal in a Yorkshire market town, starring John Duttine as the pro-tem newspaper editor. Tonight, the embarrassing photographs found in the safe of the late newspaper proprietor's safe.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 The London Programme: The return of LWT's Friday night current affairs series. Tonight, for the first time, we hear full details of Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Kenneth Newman's new policing plan, based on a determination to turn policing towards more effective crime prevention and away from the traditional system of crime detection. We see how the plan is working in Hackney.

11.00 Darts: the Silk Cut World Cup, from Edinburgh. We see the climax of the first women's competition in pairs and singles, plus the men's pairs finals.

12.00 Continental Movies: Wild Game (1972) Rainer Werner Fassbinder's drama about the disintegration of a German family caused by the young daughter's obsession with a local youth. Starring Eva Mattes, Harry Baer and Jorg Von Liebenfels; **1.40 Night Thoughts.**

Fernando Rey and Carole Bouquet: (BBC 2, 9.00 pm)

BBC 2

9.08 Daytime on Two. The line-up is: **9.08 Catalysis; 9.35 Maths-in-a-Box; 9.52** Part 5 of Dark Towers; **10.15 Mathscore Two; 10.38** Exploring Science (energy); **11.00** Junior Craft, Design and Technology; **11.22** Read On; **11.44** Going to Work; **12.06** The Computer Programme: Series 1 (the New Media); **12.30** Business Club: A Visit to Hartlepool; **12.55** Speak for Yourself: phoning work when sick.

1.21 Encounter: Spain; **1.38** Around Scotland (Clyde Coast); **2.01** Girl in Brazil; **2.30** English File. American writer John hersey and his visit to atom-bomb devastated Hiroshima.

3.00 International Tennis: live coverage of the Daihatsu Challenge, from Brighton. British eyes will be on Jo Durie who has reached the semi-finals of both the French and United States Open this year. Seeded No 1 is Chris Evert Lloyd. The commentators are John Barrett and Ann Jones.

5.35 News summary: with sub-titles.

5.40 Film: Tall in the Saddle (1944*) Western with woman appeal. John Wayne arrives to take over as foreman of a ranch only to discover that his new employers are a spinster and her lovely young niece. With Ella Raines, Ward Bond, George 'Gabby' Hayes and Audrey Long. Directed by Edwin L Marin.

7.05 Jack High: Final of the Kodak Masters Bowls Tournament continues into its second week. The finish is a nail-biting experience. From Worthing.

7.35 The Millionaire Magpie: Expanded and re-edited version of the film, first screened a couple of years ago, examining the life and lifetime's obsession of Sir William Burrell whose private art collection, valued at over £100m, is housed in the Glasgow estate gallery which the Queen opened earlier today. (See Choice).

8.35 Gardeners' World: Making the best use, in winter, of an unheated greenhouse. And some of the tasks we ought to be tackling in the garden before winter comes. With Paul Ingwerson joining the regular team.

9.00 Buñuel Film Season: That Obscure Object of Desire (1977) The last film that Buñuel made. Fernando Rey is the Frenchman who is so consumed with passion for an unattainable young virgin (played by two actresses, Carole Bouquet and Angela Molina) that he is totally unaware of the terrorism around him. In French, with English sub-titles.

10.40 Newsnight.

11.25 International Tennis: Quarter-finals action in the Daihatsu Challenge, played today at the Brighton Centre. Ends at 12.15am.

CHOICE

● **THE MILLIONAIRE MAGPIE** (BBC 2, 7.35) is just what is needed to balance the awestruck and weighty sentiments that are likely to come out of Scotland today about the Burrell Collection, the opening by the Queen of the gallery that houses it, and the generosity of the man who donated the 8,000 treasures to the burghers of Glasgow. "The largest surviving Granny's attic in the world", says art critic Edwin Mullins of the vast collection that, when the film was made (and screened) a few years ago, was still lying crated and shelved, in a secret hideaway, waiting for its refugee existence to end. "A bona fide miser", says the late Lord Clark of Sir William Burrell, the donor. Kenneth Clark was still very much alive, and in fine anecdotal form, when we first saw him recalling in how this Victorian Howard Hughes, a prisoner of his own collector's mania, living a recluse's life in his Berwickshire castle, dispensed with electric light switches, preferring to carry a key on his watch-chain with which he *would turn off the lights as he went* from room to room, from art treasure to art treasure. Tonight's feature, appropriately the work of BBC Scotland, is an updated and re-edited version of the original film. It is presented, as was the first version, by Magnus Magnusson.

● There are really only two films you need worry your head about tonight. Neither is a classic, but both are the subjects of footnotes in cinema history books. Not only is **THAT OBSCURE OBJECT OF DESIRE** (BBC 2, 9.00 pm) the last film in BBC 2's Buñuel season; it was also the last film that Buñuel made, and if the old master was beginning to lose his touch, he was still able to make us sit up and take notice. As for **THE MOON IS BLUE** (Channel 4, 11.30 pm), a harmless enough comedy by our liberal standards these days, it so *outraged the American censor* with its use of forbidden words like virgin, seduce and mistress, that it was refused a distribution seal of approval. The ban was defied, the film was shown, and the dawning of the permissive age in the cinema was speeded up like an old Chaplin movie projected at the wrong speed.

● Famous opera voices, in conversation not song, reveal that **ENJOYING OPERA** (Radio 4, 4.10) is a title that ought not to be taken too literally.

CHANNEL 4

5.00 The Munsters: Greed rears its ugly head when Herman and Grandma discover a secret room in which, it is thought, pirate treasure might lie buried.

5.20 Film: The Crazy World of Laurel and Hardy (1964*): A string of sequences from many of the famous pair's short and full-length movies, including From Soup to Nuts, The Music Box (an Oscar winner), The Hoosegow, Way Out West and Swiss Miss (the one with the gorilla, the piano and the rope bridge).

7.00 Channel Four News. And weather forecast.

7.30 The Friday Alternative: Tonight's line-up includes a pro-Cecil Parkinson item which examines previous examples of politicians involved in non-political dramas; interviews with the relatives of two Britons who died in the Korean airliner shoot-down; and a report on how black children in Britain benefit from our educational system.

8.00 The Amateur Naturalist: Gerald Durrell and his wife Lee travel to the famous wetlands in the south of France – the Camargue. Marvellous pictures of the fighting bulls of the region, the famous herds of wild white horses, and the magnificent pink flamingoes.

8.30 A Week in Politics: with Peter Jay. How the Government's trade union reform policy will affect the Labour Party's cash, and the unions' influence. Len Murray, the TUC general secretary, is interviewed.

9.15 Rockers Roadshow: Showcase for young emerging musicians. The show, from Bristol, features two of the city's best-known bands Black Roots and Talisman. The other bands include Rainbow Steel Band.

10.00 The Paul Hogan Show: Comedy show with pretty girls and the Australian comedian of the title.

10.30 Follow the Nation's Health: A studio discussion, with filmed illustrations, on last night's film in The Nation's Health series. Among the topics to be examined is the problem of Britain's increasingly elderly population. Joan Shenton is in the chair.

11.30 What the Censor Saw: The Moon is Blue (1953*) Adult (by 1950s standards) comedy with Maggie McNamara as the girl whose virginity faces a double threat from William Holden and David Niven. Also starring Tom Tully and Dawn Adams. Based on F. Hugh Herbert's stage play. Censorship-wise, the film made history. Director: Otto Preminger. Ends at 1.20. (See Choice).

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Shipping Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary 6.45 Prayer for the Day 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.00, 8.00 Today's News 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.35 Your Letters
8.43 'The Secret Sharer' by Joseph Conrad (5). Read by Edward Fox 8.57 Weather; Travel
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs Actor, Topol†
9.45 Smith in the Sun. Phil Smith takes to the summer playground to inspect his fellow pleasure-seekers.
10.00 News; International Assignment. BBC correspondent review a contemporary issue.
10.30 Morning Story; 'Dressed to Kill' by Brian Glanville. Read by the author.
10.45 Daily Service.
11.00 News; Travel; The Countryside in October. With Wynford Vaughan-Thomas.
11.48 Natural Selection. Life under a hedge.
12.00 News; You and Yours. Consumer affairs.
12.27 Top of the Form. Durham School, Durham v Conyers School, Yarms (r) 12.55 Weather; Programme News.
1.00 The World at One: News.
1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping.
2.00 News; Woman's Hour from Manchester. Includes an interview with a freelance ecologist, Penny Anderson. Also an exhibition keyed to the 1960s, and part 12 of The Woodlanders.
3.00 News; Wives and Daughters by Elizabeth Gaskell (last of nine parts)†
4.00 News; Just After Four. Teenagers explain their attitude to life.
4.10 Enjoying Opera. The third of six programmes looking at the world of opera – 'The Singer Not the Song'. Presented by Monty Haltrecht. The celebrated singers making contributions include Placido Domingo.
4.40 Story Time: 'Prairie Spring' by Margaret Creal. The reader: Helen Horton.
5.00 PM: News Magazine 5.50 Shipping 5.55 Weather; Travel.
6.00 The Six O'clock News; Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places. The world of travel and transport.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week. Programme highlights with Margaret Howard
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait.
8.30 Any Questions? from Kingston-upon-Hull, Humberside. With Baroness Phillips, Austin Mitchell, Bob Battersby and Peter March.
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke.
9.30 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine. Includes reviews of two new Barbican productions, Maydays and Custom of the Country. Also comment on the Radio 2 series, The Fosdyke Saga, based on the strip cartoon by Bill Tidy. 9.25 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight: News.
10.35 Week Ending. A satirical review of week's news †
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Heat of the Day" by Elizabeth Bowen (15). Read by Elizabeth Spriggs.
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 The Archive Auction. BBC Foreign Correspondent, Erik de Mauny reminisces.
11.45 Two One-and-Nines, Please. Classic film musicals (The Student Prince). With Edward Cole.
12.00 News.
12.10 Weather.
12.15 Shipping Forecast.

England VHF as above except 6.25-6.30 Weather; Travel. 10.45-12.00 For Schools: 1.55pm Listening Corner 2.00-3.00 For Schools: 5.50-5.55 PM (continued 11.00-12.00 Study on 4: DIGAME! 11.30 Get By In German. 12.30-1.10am Schools Night-Time Broadcasting: 12.30 Deutsch fur die Oberstufe (9 & 10)

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert: part one. Cherubini (overture: Anacréon), Paganini (Sonata Napoleone, with Salvatore Accardo and the London Phil), Franck (Les Djinns, with Frantisek Maxian, piano, and the Czech Phil Orch), and Chabrier (Suite pastorale).†
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert: part two. Telemann (Conc in E for flute, oboe d'amore, viola d'amore, and strings - Academy of Ancient Music under Hogwood), Bach (Sonata in G for two flutes and continuo, BWV 1039) and Mozart (Symph No 34).†
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composers: The Court of Burgundy. The Pro Cantione Antiqua play Pierre de La Rue's Laudate Dominum: Pater de caelis and Salve Regina; and Busnois's Mass: L'homme armé. On records.†
10.00 Piano Music by Rachmaninov: John Barstow plays the Melodie: Elegie: Polichinelle; Preludes in G sharp minor and D and G *minor.†*
10.30 Howard Ferguson: an Ulster Orchestra concert, with Brian Rayner Cook (baritone) in performances of Ferguson's overture for an Occasion, Op 16; Finzi's The Fall of the Leaf (orchestration completed by Ferguson), Ferguson's Two Ballads for baritone and orch, Op 1, his Partita, Op 5a, and his orchestration of Bach's Fuga Ricercata (Musical Offering).†
11.30 Trio Cannelio: Krommer (Variations on a theme by Pleyel), Gordon Crosse (Fear no more – first broadcast performance), Pierre Dubois's Four movements from Lou Cascarelet Danses provencales.†
12.00 Halle Orchestra: part one. Gary Carpenter (first broadcast performance of Amethyst deceiver) and Mozart's Piano Conc No 15, with Peter Frankl as soloist.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents: Foreign radio broadcasts monitored by the BBC.
1.20 Halle Orchestra: part two. Elgar's Symphony No 2.†
2.20 Fauré Song-Cycles: Recital by Rosanne Creffield (mezzo) with Peter Pettinger as accompanist. Includes the song-cycle Le jardin clos, to poems by Charles van Lerberghe).†
2.55 Beethoven and Mozart: Radio Symphony Orch, Berlin play Beethoven's Triple Concerto in C major, Op 56 and Mozart's Symphony No 38. With the Trio Zingara.†
4.00 Choral Evensong: from the National Cathedral of St Patrick, Dublin. Organist and master of the choristers – John Dexter.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Another David Hoult selection.
6.30 Music for Guitar: recital by Neil Smith. Includes works by Torroba, Tarrega, Albeniz, arr Azpiazu; Albeniz, arr Lorimer; Albeniz, arr Ragossnig, and Two Catalan Songs, arranged by Llobet.†
7.00 The English Concert: with Trevor Pinnock at the harpsichord. Stanley's Concerto in G, Op 2, No 3; and the Bach Suite No 2 in B minor, BWV 1067.†
7.30 Nigel Kennedy and Roger Vignoles: violin and piano recital. Beethoven (Sonata in F *(Spring)*) and Howard Ferguson (Sonata No 2, in F sharp minor). Part one.†
8.15 The Dress of Thought: Colin Smith, former Professor of French at Reading University, reflects on differing approaches to philosophy in France, prompted by the book Philosophy in France (edited by Alan Montefiore).
8.35 Nigel Kennedy and Roger Vignoles: part two. Brahms (Sonata in G).†
9.15 Third Opinion: discussion involving Peter Oppenheimer, the economist, Sir Donald Maitland, former ambassador to the EEC, and other speakers.
10.00 Jean-Philippe Rameau: the acte de ballet Anacréon, with a cast headed by Rene Shirner, as Anacréon, and Agnes Mellon as Eros.
10.50 Strauss: the London Baroque Ensemble play the Suite in B flat, Op 4 for 13 wind instruments.†
11.15 News. Until 11.18.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except 8.00 pm and 9.00). Major bulletins 7.00 am, 8.00, 1.00 pm, 5.00 and 12.00 midnight. Headlines 6.30 am, 6.30, 7.30 (MF/MW). 5.00 am Ray Mooret. 7.30 Terry Wogant. 10.00 John Cravent. 12.00 pm Music While You Workt. 12.30 Gloria Hunniford, direct from The Motor Fair at Earls Court. 2.02 Sports Desk. 2.30 Ed Stewartt. 3.02, 4.02 Sports desk. 4.05 David Hamiltont including 5.30 Sports desk. 6.00 John Dunnt including 6.45 Sports and Classified Results (MF only). 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night direct from the Nell Gwynne Theatre, Hereford. Songs from Lorna Dallas and Niall Murray. Includes music from Band Wagon, Showboat, The Vagabond King. Plus Maurice Chevalier favourites and music from Swan Lake and The Barber of Seville. † 9.30 The King's Singerst. 9.57 Sports desk. 10.00 The Random Jottings of Hinge and Bracket. 10.30 Brian Matthew presents Round Midnight (stereo from midnight). 1.00 am Night Owls with Dave Gellyt. 2.00-5.00 Liz Allen.

Radio 1

News on the half-hour 6.30 am – 8.30 pm, then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (MF/MW). 6.30 am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon and Steve in Scotland. Simon Bates and Steve Wright in The Eden Court Theatre Lawn, Inverness. 11.30 Mike Smith, including 12.30 Newsbeat. 2.00 Simon and Steve in Scotland from The Eden Court Theatre Lawn, Inverness. 4.30 Peter Powell's Select-a-Disc. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 9.00-12.00 The Friday Rock Showt. VHF Radios 1 and 2. 5.00 With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service: page 19, col 8

BBC1 WALES: 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.25 Wales Today. 10.15-10.30 Sport Folio. 10.30-11.20 Week In Week Out. 11.20-11.21 News. 11.21-11.55am Film: The List of Adrian Messanger (George C Scott). SCOTLAND: 12.56-1.00pm *News.* 6.00-6.10 News. 6.10-6.25 *On* The Fiddle. Jimmy Moir. 9.25-9.55 Double Bill. 9.55-10.57 Agenda. 10.27-10.30 News. 10.30-11.15 Knots Landing. 11.15-12.55am Film: Shaft's Big Score. NORTHERN IRELAND: 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.25 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 10.50-11.20 Royal Birthday. (Royal Maternity Hospital, Belfast. 11.20-1.05am Film: Little Murders (Elliott Gould). 1.05 News. ENGLAND: 6.00-6.25 Regional news magazines. 10.15-10.5 East – Weekend. Midlands – Straight Talk. North – One Plus One. (Laurie Taylor). North East – The Allotment Show. North West – Lynda Lee's People: (Dame Eva Turner). South – The Cellar Show. (Harry Corbett, and musical revue 'Snoopy'. South West – Pasties and Cream. West – Update.

S4C Starts 2.00pm Ffenestri. 2.20 Stori Sbri. 2.35 Hyn O Fyd. 2.55 Spice of Life. 3.20 Book 4. 4.00 Design Matters. 4.30 Countdown. The words and numbers game, compered by Richard Whiteley with William Rushton as adjudicator. 4.55 Lowri a'r Capten. 5.05 Gwaed ar y Dagrau. 5.35 Malibu World Disco Dancing Championships. 6.00 Entertainers. 6.30 Addams Family. 6.55 Gair yn ei Bryd. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.30 Sion a Sian. 8.00 Pobol y Cwm. 8.30 Pawb a'i Fys. 9.15 Paul Rogan Show. 9.45 Soap. 10.15 Nation's Health. 11.55 Frame with Davis. 12.20am Gair yn ei Bryd, Closedown.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00 Film: "Ring of Fire" (David Janssen). 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters. 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00-7.00 Calendar and Sport. 10.30-11.00 Newhart. 12.00 Corries and Other Folk. 12.30am Closedown.

ULSTER As London except: 9.25am-9.30 Day Ahead. 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.00 Film: "Topper Returns". 3.30-4.00 Paint Along with Nancy. 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 6.45-7.00 Advice. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Darts. 12.00 News, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Film: Foxhole in Cairo (James Robertson Justice). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00 Sons and Daughters. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 10.30-11.00 Newhart. 12.00 Film: There Once was a Cop. 1.45am Closedown.

TVS As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20 News. 1.30 Afternoon Club. 1.35 About Britain. 2.05 Old Wives' Tales. 2.10 Film: Claudia (Dorothy McGuire). 3.53 Sportsbreak. 3.55-4.00 Blunt Encounters. 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.09 Friday Sportshow. 10.30-11.00 Just Williams. 12.00 Paris by Night. 12.30am Company, Closedown.

CHANNEL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Desert Rats. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30What's on Where. 6.35-7.00 Crossroads. 10.34-11.00 Benson. 12.00 Laughing Girl Murder. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV WEST As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Storm in a Teacup" (Vivien Leigh) 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters 6.00 News 6.30-7.00 So What's Your Problem? 10.30-11.00 Press Call 12.00 Benson 12.30am Closedown

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 11.05am-11.20 About Wales 6.00pm-7.00 Wales at Six 10.30-11.00 Writers of our Time

TSW As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Rats (Richard Burton). 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.34-11.00 Benson. 12.00 Laughing Girl Murder. 12.30am Postscript. Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News and Lookaround. 2.00 Film: Initiation of Sarah. 3.30-4.00 Does The Team Think? 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters. 6.02 Sporting Chance. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.32 Friday Live. 1.00am Three's Company, Closedown.

ANGLIA As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Ring of Fire (David Janssen). 5.15-5.45 Battle of Trafalgar. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 10.30 Cross Question. 11.05 Darts. 12.00 Film: House That Wouldn't Die (Richard Egan). 1.25am Rock for Jesus. Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20 News. 1.30 Film. Walk Don't Run (Cary Grant). 3.30-4.00 Sons and Daughters. 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters. 6.00-7.00 News. 10.30-11.00 Comedians 12.00Mannix. 1.00am Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.00-3.30 Film: Big Job" (Sidney James). 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30-7.00 Burrell Collection. 10.30-11.00 Ways and Means. 12.00 Late Call. 12.05am That's Hollywood. 12.30 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN 9.25am-9.30 First Thing 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself 1.20-1.30 News 2.00-3.30 Film 5.15-5.45 Benson 6.00-7.00 North Tonight 10.30-11.30 Points North 12.30am News, Closedown

BORDER As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Consider Yourself 1.20-1.30 News 2.00 Film: Bless This House (Sidney James) 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors 5.15-5.45 Blockbusters 6.00 Lookaround 6.30-7.00 Follow That 10.30 Friday Live 12.00 News, Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN.
† Stereo. ★Black and white. (r) Repeat.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m: VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz 1500m: VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m: VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m: VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

The Japanese tackle an impossible dream

Bulky team tries to beat Welsh at Rugby

From Jim Jones
Cardiff

Surrounded by several tons of fish-fed muscle Mr Hiroshi Hibino was anything but inscrutable. He even revealed the secret of his water-filled buckets. For as he spoke the great shadow of Cardiff Arms Park reminded him of his pursuit of the impossible dream.

Mr Hibino is coach to the Japanese rugby team currently touring Wales. His dream is that his side should achieve immortality by defeating what he perceives to be the best rugby nation in the world.

"You have your ups and downs but we knew when you came to Japan in 1975 we were looking at magic. Because you were so great the crowd stood up and cheered you like heroes."

It was on that tour when Wales won by 82 points to six, a memory that haunts Japan so much that ony ultimate victory over the Welsh will erase it.

With an excusable arrogance the Welsh have not trained specially for the international match against Japan today and their players will not even be capped for the occasion. In short, what is regarded by the Japanese as a winter ascent of the Eiger is being treated by the Welsh as a practice match. Yet Mr Hibino's assault on Welsh rugby is every bit as professional as the strategems that have put Japanese companies at the forefront of world technology.

Apart from the fact that none of the 26-man squad wears spectacles, the most astonishing thing about the Japanese rugby team is the size of the players. Ten years ago they had the skill but were pushed aside like leaves in an autumn gale before the intimidating and massive bulk of the mighty Pontypool front row.

Now they look like fit Sumo wrestlers and no less threatening. The average weight of 200 lbs is scarcely less than the Welshmen they hope to tame.

Rugby has been played in Japan for 84 years, ever since it was introduced by a Mr Clarke who left Cambridge to teach English at Keio University, Tokyo.

Mr Hibino said: "Although we have more than 3,000 teams in my country, many of the club sides exist only for the beer and the fun. The serious sides tend to be company sides. Our aim is to challenge the world. "Because there are too many people in my country it is difficult to train properly. Usually pitches are shared between baseball and soccer games so we can only have one third of a pitch to practise on.

"But I know Wales had a lot of rainfall so we had dozens of plastic buckets filled with water on our third of the pitch and before any man could make a pass he had to dip the ball into the bucket.

"Unfortunately we did not know it would be so windy over here so when we get back after our expected defeat we will train again, only this time we will have giant fans on the touchline to simulate the wind. We will not give up. We play on mud and dirt but one day we will beat you. This is our dream."



Team talk: Hiroshi Hibino coaching three of his squad on the finer points of the game. (Photographs: Dennis Stephens)





Tough work: Players practising a maul while manager Shiggy Konno looks on.

Ordered Lord Moyne's death

Shamir defends terrorist past

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, has given an interview covering the most controversial aspects of his past as leader of the Jewish terrorist group known as the Stern Gang and one of the top undercover agents in the Mossad, Israel's secret service.

Mr Shamir defended the murder of Lord Moyne, the British Cabinet minister assassinated on his order in 1944 and denied that he had any part in the efforts by Mr Abraham Stern, the original commander of Lehi (Fighters for the Freedom of Israel) to establish contact with the Nazis and Italian Fascists.

"There was a plan to turn to Italy for help and to make contact with Germany on the assumption that these could bring about a massive Jewish immigration (to Palestine); I opposed this", he told the Tel Aviv newspaper, *Yediot Ahranot*, "but I did join Lahi after the idea of contacts with the Axis countries was dropped."

Referring to the shooting of Lord Moyne in Cairo, Mr Shamir stated: "We always regretted the loss of life. But look at what the British author and investigator, Nicholas Bethell (Lord Bethell) has written about Lord Moyne: he was Colonial Secretary when the unfortunate immigrant ship, The Stuma reached Istanbul, and he wass the one who pressured the Turks into pushing it back out into the Black Sea.

"He accused Zionism of seeking large immigration into a crowded country and of exercising racist control over the 'displaced residents'. He came out against large-scale immigration into the country. He was the one who asked, when there was a chance of saving one million Jews from the Nazi holocaust 'What will I do with them?' One must not forget the era in which these various events were taking place in the region. Today, at a distance of more than 40 years it is difficult for a person who is unaware of the circumstances of that time to understand things properly."

Mr Shamir described how after escaping from a British prison camp in Eritrea, he made one leg of the journey to Djibouti in French Somaliland in a crammed cell built into the hull of an oil tanker.

Dr Shmuel Ariel, who was the representative in France of the Irgun (the other Jewish terrorist group) disclosed how the French political system was manipulated to ensure that Mr Shamir and another escaped detainee, were not extradited to the British.

"Among those involved was the French Prime Minister, M Robert Schumann who signed a personal letter ordering the transport of the two to France to be assured", Dr Ariel claimed. "French Navy ships brought Shamir and Ben-Eliezer from Djibouti to France in 1948 with the status of political refugees".

Shoot-on-sight curfew imposed in Grenada

Continued from page 1

Granada announced that Mr Bishop, Miss Creft and Mr Whiteman, together with the former Housing Minister, Mr Norris Bain, and two union leaders – Mr Vincent Noel and Mr Fitzroy Bain – had been killed in the shooting at Fort Rupert.

The official announcement by General Austin said Mr Bishop had refused to negotiate or compromise, threatening to wipe out the leadership of the armed forces and the ruling party, and had been killed as soldiers stormed the fort.

There were also reports of two explosions followed by a fire at the fort, named after Mr Bishop's father, murdered by supporters of Sir Eric Gairy, the previous Prime Minister overthrown in 1979 by Mr Bishop.

Other accounts allege that Mr Bishop and the five ministers and union leaders were executed. The *Trinidad Express* newspaper reported that, when the demonstration clashed with troops at the fort, soldiers cleared away the crowd, lined up Mr Bishop and his colleagues against a wall, then shot them.

An emergency meeting of Caribbean Community leaders has been called in Port of Spain this weekend, and Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago have announced that they will not sit down with Grenada at any conference.

Power struggle; misread signals, page 5; Leading article, page 11

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen opens the Burrell Gallery, Pollok Park, Glasgow, 12.30.

New exhibitions

The Highland Clearances: Paintings by Peter Seddon, Crawford Centre for the Arts, St Andrews University; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; Sun 2 to 5 (until Nov 14).

Picasso prints, Peter Potter Gallery, 10 The Sands, Haddington, Lothian; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 2 (until Nov 8).

Exhibitions in progress

Paintings and drawings by Jack Knox, Museum and Art Gallery, Castle Wynd, Inverness; Mon to Sat 9 to 5 (until Nov 12).

Open Week: exhibition for amateurs, Piers Art Centre, Stromness, Orkney; Tues to Sat 10.30 to 12.30, 1.30 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Oct 23).

Actual drawings by David Atkinson, Festival Gallery Pierrepont Place, Bath; Tues to Sat 11 to 5 (until Nov 5).

Last chance to see

Paintings, prints and drawings by Roger Hampson. The Looking Glass Gallery of Modern Arts, 53 Halifax Road, Todmorden; 10 to 5.30 (ends tomorrow).

Works by Brian Gibb, 369 Gallery, 369 High Street, Edinburgh; 12 to 5.30 (ends tomorrow).

Talks, lectures

The National Trust in the Lake District – past and future, by Nigel Sale, Bowness Bay Theatre, Glebe, Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria, 8.30.

Music

Concert by Gemini Brass Ensemble, North Bromsgrove High School, School Drive, 7.30.

Piano recital by Margaret Fingerhut, Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool, 8.

Concert by Tom Paxton, folk singer and song writer, University Church of St Mary, High Street, Oxford, 8.

Concert by Nicola Hurton (violin) and John Lenehan (piano), the King's School, Ottery St Mary, 7.30.

Concert by Hamilton Harty's Irish Symphony, Ulster Hall, Bedford Street, Belfast, 8.

Concert by Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Music Hall, Aberdeen, 7.30.

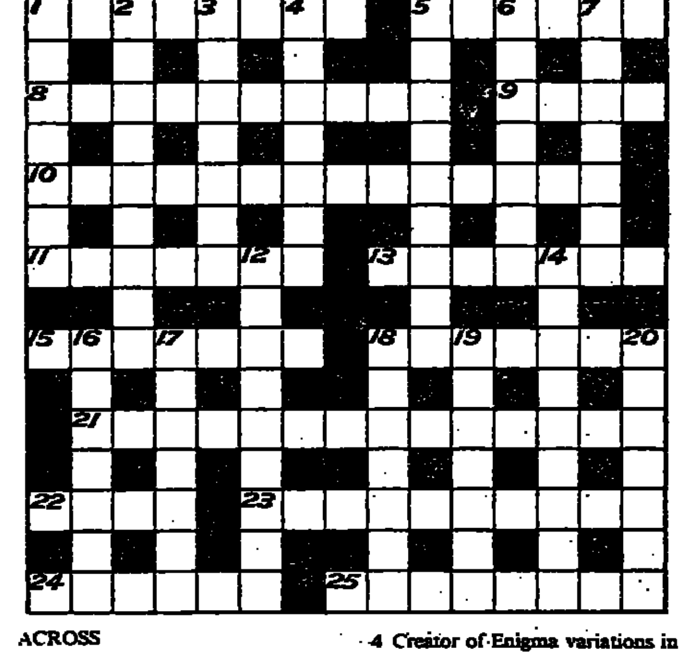
Concert by Scottish National Orchestra with Christian Zacharias (piano), Usher Hall, Edinburgh, 7.30.

Fortepiano recital by Melvyn Tan, Holburne Museum, Great Pulteney Street, Bath, 7.30.

General

East Sussex Guild of Craft Workers exhibition and sale, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea, 10.30 to 5 today and tomorrow.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,266



ACROSS

1 Desert ship commanded by him (8).
5 Small contribution to degree – not the best (6).
8 Queen's enemy we wish to see confounded (10).
9 Points on compass connected by needle (4).
10 County village of fiction with riches distributed about (14).
11 Steele's publication disheartens this gossip (7).
13 Artist has to live in royal residence (7).
15 Am I partly splitting nail in four for local girl? (7).
18 Sense of significance (7).
21 London area for philosopher, by no means trendy (8,6).
22 Check part of system's temperature twice (4).
23 Party types hope theirs won't go with a swing (10).
24 Parts of course (6).
25 Cut with a 3 and tore off a strip (8).

DOWN

1 Ape with another animal – not the original sort (4,3).
2 Did it register plus 70 at Babylon? (7).
3 A non-metaphorical misprint (7).
4 Creator of Enigma variations in Germany (7).
5 Rock sound produced, by George! (9).
6 Dismiss till manager appears (7).
7 Two sorts of present out of place? (7).
12 Cut is altogether under this (9).
14 Cheat in game of chance – caught by brother officer (9).
16 Judge takes part in rare reform (7).
17 Prosper at French court as writer (7).
18 Employ a different sort of staff for holiday (7).
19 Clears account, having settled what was owing (7).
20 How American supposed visitor might sound (7).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,265

BANTER CHESSMAN
CORRIGENDA OHMS
RESIDUAL LERIDA
SHOT MANIFOLD
STIPPLER ROOM
PEDANT TOPLINER
EDGE PRONOUNCED
CODMENTS ERRATA

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

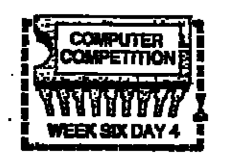
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8

Anniversaries

Births: Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Ottery St Mary, Devon, 1772; Alphonse de Lamartine, poet and statesman, Mâcon, France, 1790; Alfred Nobel, chemist and industrialist, founder of the Nobel Prizes, Stockholm, 1833. Deaths: Edmund Waller, poet, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, 1687; Horatio, First Viscount Nelson, was killed at battle of Trafalgar, 1805; Arthur Schnitzler, dramatist, Vienna, 1931.

National Day

The Somali Democratic Republic celebrates its National Day today. It marks the anniversary of the bloodless military coup on October 21, 1969, six days after the assassination of President Shermake. The Revolutionary Council formed after the coup was headed by General Muhammad Said Barre, who immediately assumed the presidency. The revolution came just nine yares after the independency of Somalia, which came into being as the combination of a British protectorate and Italian trust territory.



Top films

Top box-office films in London:
1 (1) Zelig
2 (4) Breathless
3 (2) War Games
4 (3) Staying Alive
5 (5) Octopussy
6 (7) Betrayal
7 (6) Merry CHristmas Mr Lawrence
8 (9) We of the Never Never
9 (8) Psycho II
10 (–) Heat and Dust

The top five in the provinces:
1 War Games
2 Staying Alive
3 Porky's II: The Next Day
4 Educating Rita
5 Breathless

Compiled by *Screen International*

Food prices

With half-term imminent, many parents will be stocking up with convenience foods. Bejam have 800 gramme packs of cod fillets for £1.49 and 50 fish fingers for £1.64. A 4lb pack of oven chips is £1.09 and 20 beefburgers £1.65. Marks and Spencer have packs of frozen tomato, cheese and onion pizzas for £1.29: 10 smaller tomato and cheese pizzas are down to 88p. Thick pork sausages are 79p a pound, and meat pies range from 35p to 75p. Ready-backed potatoes with cheese are £1.09 a pound.

Wholesale prices for beef and lamb have been increasing recently. According to Dewhurst, topside and silverside are £1.94 to £2.32 a pound, but Fine Fare have topside at £1.82. Whole leg of lamb is £1.24 to £1.60 a pound and whole shoulders 69p to £1.05. Sainsburys have reduced loin chops to £1.24 a pound.

Fish prices are still high; cod and haddock fillets average £1.32 a pound; plaice £1.48, herring 71p. Mackerel as usual is a best buy at 48p.

Another children's favourite are satsumas; now 24-35p a pound, they should become still cheaper. Cox's apples are lovely at 25-45p a pound, as are Russets at 28-38p. Excellent Bramley's cooking apples 20-30p a pound; bananas and grapes are 34-42p and 45-60p a pound respectively.

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.70	1.62
Austria Sch	28.45	26.85
Belgium Fr	83.00	79.00
Canada $	1.90	1.83
Denmark Kr	14.62	13.92
Finland Mkk	8.77	8.37
France Fr	12.29	11.70
Germany DM	4.01	3.82
Greece Dr	153.00	145.00
Hongkong $	11.95	11.35
Ireland Pt	1.29	1.24
Italy Lira	2440.00	2330.00
Japan Yen	365.00	347.00
Netherlands Gld	4.53	4.30
Norway Kr	11.37	10.80
Portugal Esc	195.00	184.00
South Africa Rd	1.82	1.69
Spain Pta	230.75	222.75
Sweden Kr	12.07	11.50
Switzerland Fr	3.27	3.10
USA $	1.54	1.49
Yugoslavia Dnr	213.00	197.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank International Ltd.

Retail Price Index: 339.5.

London: The *FT* Index closed up 12.6 at 691.0.

Roads

London and South-east: A602: Temporary signals at Bragbury End, Hertfordshire. A408: Single lane, temporary signals at Yiewsley High Street, near Falling Lane; Heathrow and M4 route. A307: Hill Street, Richmond, closed; diversion.

Midlands: A38: One carriageway shared on Burton-on-Trent bypass, Staffordshire; and diversion at Clay Mills. A5: Delays at Weston under Lizard, Staffordshire. A38: One carriageway shared at Alrewas, Staffordshire.

North: Liverpool: Queensway Tunnel closed nightly; diversion via Liverpool Wallasey Tunnel 9.15pm to 5.45am. A1(M): Lanes closed Blyth to Marr, south Yorkshire. M1: Southbound carriageway shared between junctions 38 and 39 (Huddersfield to Wakefield).

Wales and West: A470: One lane only, temporary signals Abercynon to Pontypridd. A4072: Southbound carriageway shared at Forge Lane, Newport. A38: Lane closures and diversions at Marsh Mills Viaduct and Lee Mill, Plymouth.

Scotland: M8: Lanes closed near junction 12 (Stirling). A87: Single lane, temporary lights at Inverinate, South of Dornie, Ross and Cromarty. M8: Eastbound carreageway shared between Lothian regional boundary and Harthill service area.

Information supplied by AA.

Christmas post

Next Tuesday, October 25, is the latest recommended posting date for Christmas cards and parcels being sent by ship to destinations including Algeria, Bermuda, Cyprus, Greece, India, Israel, Jamaica, Mexico, Pakistan, Singapore and Zimbabwe.

A leaflet, "Overseas Christmas Mail 1983", giving details of latest recommended posting dates for Christmas mail by air and surface, is available free of charge from post offices.

The papers

The Daily Mirror comments: Mr Michael Meacher, the Labour MP, "wants newspapers to operate on a seven-year licence. Renewal of the licence would depend upon an independent press authority's judgment of a newspaper's objectivity and whether it had fallen short of 'required standards'. Required by whom? An independent body appointed by the Government and paid for by Government money? We don't want any Government putting pressure on this paper, any more than we want a right-wing proprietor. Leaving us alone to make up our own mind would be the best guarantee of freedom we could have."

Spirit of London

Nearly £12,000 worth of prizes are being offered in the GLC's "Spirit of London" painting competition. Five prizes are being awarded for work on the theme of peace, to mark GLC Peace Year. The competition is open to all who live, work or study in Greater London who are over 16 years of age. Full details and entry forms are available by phone on 01-633 1705

Weather forecast

An anticyclone over Scotland will drift slowly SE. A shallow depression S of Cork will gradually fill as it moves towards Brittany.

6 am to midnight

London, East Anglia, SE, Central S England, Midlands: Dry, cloudy at first, sunny periods later; wind variable, light; max 14C (57F).

E, Central N, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Moray Firth: Mainly dry, sunny periods, mist or fog soon dispersing; wind variable, light; max 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Cloudy, rain, becoming drier, sunny intervals; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max 14C (57F).

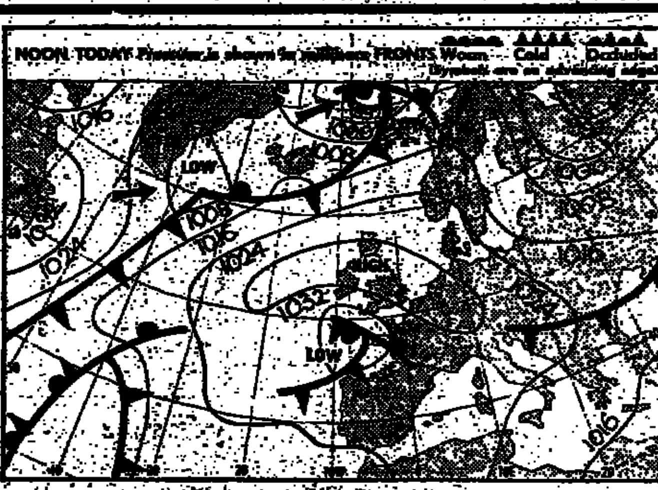
N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW, NE, NW Scotland, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland: Mainly dry, sunny intervals, mist or fog soon dispersing; wind variable, light; 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Orkney, Shetland: Mainly dry, sunny inervals; wind W, moderate; 11C (52F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Dry, bright, some overnight fog, becoming cloudy with rain in N Scotland. Becoming milder in most paces.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind variable, light; sea smooth. Straits of Dover: Wind mainly E, moderate; sea slight. English Channel (E): Wind E, moderate or fresh, locally strong at first; sea moderate locally, rough at first. St George's Channel: Wind mainly E, strong at first, becoming moderate; sea rough, becoming moderate. Irish Sea: Wind SE, light or moderate; sea slight.

Sun rises: 7.34am Sun sets: 5.56pm
Moon sets: 6.40am Moon rises: 6.12pm
Full Moon 10.53pm.



Lighting-up time

London 6.26 pm to 7.05 am
Bristol 6.36 pm to 7.15 am
Edinburgh 6.29 pm to 7.27 am
Manchester 6.31 pm to 7.18 am
Penzance 6.50 pm to 7.24 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	f	8	46	Guernsey	f	12	54
Birmingham	c	11	52	Inverness	r	8	46
Blackpool	c	9	48	Jersey	s	13	55
Bristol	f	12	54	London	f	13	55
Cardiff	f	11	52	Manchester	f	10	50
Edinburgh	s	9	48	Newcastle	f	9	48
Glasgow	s	10	50	Ronaldsway	c	10	50

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 13C (55F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 5C (41F). Humidity: 6 pm, 58 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm: nil. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 7.1 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm: 1029.6 millibars, steady
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

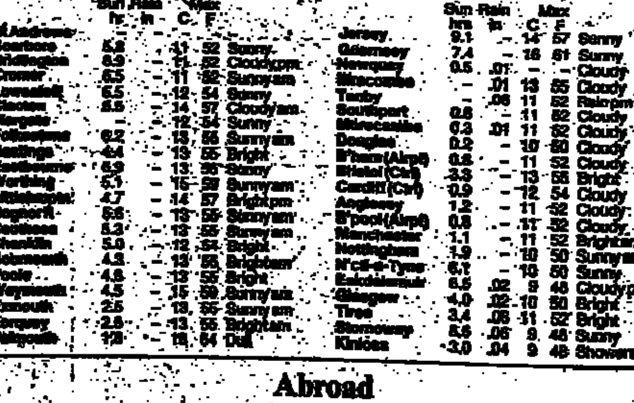
Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 16C (61F) lowest day max: Lerwick, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Fraserburgh, 0.6 in; highest sunshine: Jersey, 9.1 hr.

High tides



Around Britain



Abroad

